BOOKS

NEWS IN BRIEF

NCR two-day strike threat

FIREA LENED strike action by NCR service engineers on Monday and Tuesday this week (CW, February 14) in support of a pay claim was called off after the company made two revised pay-

The strike was postponed by ASTMS representatives so that the 750 engineers could be ballated on whether to accept one of the offers, which would give a 19% across the board increase, compared to the previous 18%.

But union representatives have recommended that the men reject the offers and strike on February 25 and 26.

Theatre bookings

A feasibility study is being carned our at the National Theatre to see how the box office can hest be computerised. With three theatres playing in repertory ticker's desire complicated. and labour intensive; the ann isto make them as efficient as arbne bookings.

500th printer

PERIPHERAL wholesaler X-Data of Slough has delivered its 500th termter. And the Company formed in January 1978, expects From front page to deliver its 1,000th printer by

BCS AGM move

THE Council of the British Computer Society is to move away from London for its counoil neeting and for the 1980 anplace in the Council House, shops. "In the UK we have 50% of the to attend

Stag Terminals have moved to bigger and betterpremises not very far away either. So our friends and valued customers will hot feel too disorientated when they visitus - soonwehope. àg Terminals Umited

European bureaux bid for Lowndes-Ajax

firmed that they are bidding for the UK tugal, Brazil and Argentina and is soon to Ajax, but its decision could have been bureau Lowndes-Ajax, which is being sold by the Hill Samuel group.

of technical change

The two are Centre Informatique Générale of Brussels and the largest Europeanowned bureau group, the French company Génerale de Service Informatique.

Clti in Brussels said it was interested in taking over Lowndes-Ajax as part of its international expansion plans. In addition to its big IBM-based centre in Brussels, CIG

acquire a bureau in Mexico. CIG's turnover stands at \$40 million a year.

GSI of France, which is the biggest wnership of the former CRC operation. GSI's management in the UK is keen on the IBM-based bureau centres around Europe. Hill Samuel was not prepared to comment

TWO large Continental bureaux have con- also owns bureau operations in Spain, Por- on its reasons for wanting to sell Lowndesaffected, at least partly, by the impending departure of Peter Merrick, who has been managing director of Lowndes-Ajax for the European-owned bureau group, already has a firm foothold in the UK through its up his own firm (CW, December 20/27,

1979). GSI and CIG are both owned by major takeover. GSI already owns several big organisations, GSI is part of the French electrical giant, CGE, while CIG is owned by the big Belgian bank, Societé Générale.

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prize

'THE practical implications o

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king in industry, commerce

education, or government.
Will the impact of electronic systems in offices really be at great as has been forecast, or

will office operations in the fu

from those today? These are the

questions that the organisers

Closing date for entries i

May 19. Entry forms can be obtained from the IDPM at 12-

13 Henrietta St. London WC2E

CTL appointment

TONY DAVIES, founder of the

ture be not all that dissimi



A RESEARCH and study centre also chairman of the governors the way in which the obstacles for investigating the effect of of the BBC. Other staff have not to the creation and sensible use yet been chosen, nor has the of wealth can be removed. Decision making and the forlocation of the Centre. The Leverhulme Trust, a mation of expectations will also charitable offshoot of Unilever,

he studied. Manufacturing technology will also be looked into, how it project, and each of the research can be advanced and whether a £525,000. At the end of five years substantial domestic capacity in certain basic industries should there will be a review before another five years' funds are be maintained.

The Centre will produce The Centre's work is intended publications and run seminars to boost the economy, promote and conferences to involve people from outside in its work. the application of technical de velopments, and help the Most of the staff will probably be on secondment from industry, research councils choose their policies. "A continuing theme," according to the trust, "will be universities, and government

and would expand this opera-

will continue to be to con-

solidate in the end user market,"

he said. "We will continue to

grow in the small business mar-

ket." As if to prove this point,

"Our main concern, however,

Triumph-Adler home computer bid

is committing £1.5 million to the

councils will pay an additional

costs £8,500 and has applications software available, is being launched this week.

technical change on society is to

he set up by the Leverhulme

Trust in conjunction with the

Research Councils.

and social toss.

Science and Social Science

About £2.5 million is to be

devoted over the next five years.

to support 20 researchers who

will look into the use of natural

resources, how the labour force

adapts to change, and the trade-

off between economic advance

hody of the Centre for the Ana-

lysis of Technical Change, as it

will be called, is to be Sir Michael

Swann FRS, a zoologist who is

Chahrman of the governing

Michael Davies, managing director of Adler Business Systems, Triumph-Adler's UK subsidiary, said the personal computers would be sold through the company's existing network

typewriter market, gained from strong indirect marketing

through almost 1,400 dealers selling printers in this market and distributors," he said.. "It makes sense for us to use these

channels for the Alphatronic." Davies said Volkswagen's backing was not only allowing Triumph-Adler to move into the personal computing and distributed processing markets, but also enabling it to become a the company is launching a supplier to original equipment magnetic ledger card system, manufacturers. It was already TABS 20, this week.

Receiver in at Gamma

From front page

back Gamma's holding from the receiver and have already changed the company's name back to the original Fars Computer Services. Fars main business is financial packages for

Also unaffected by the crash are the line-up of firms in which the Gamma Group had minority soldings until they bought hemselves out last year. These firms are Karlin Computer Systems, formerly Gamma Comoducis, General Terminals and Systems, which used to be called Gamma Telecommunications Systems, and GBS Interactive Systems, formerly Gamma Business Systems (Lon

Gamma Computer Corp, the US subsidiary set up last year in an ambitious attempt by Gamma to take a share of the US market for DEC-based systems (CW, May 24, 1979). Gamma's confidence was boosted by the fact that its own turnover of well over £3 million a year was a lot higher than that of most DEC

systems houses in the US. Top people at Gamma affected by the crash include managing director and founder Dr George Coggan, who had a 25% share in the company, and chairman Sir Denning Pearson, who was chairman of Rolls-Royce until it was nationalised

Another operation that will be Page 16.



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RACAL'S takeover of ailing electronics manufacturer Deco last week has thwarted GEC to! has also made it less likely hat Racal will be able or willing buy Ferranti from the govern

off Ferrant

City analysts feel that idlowing the purchase of Decu which is now "all over bard shouting", Racal will have " ough on its hands getting Dec: back to break-even point, it'i will also be short of the necessary cash.

Much hinges on the period mance of the stock marketon. the next few weeks, when Design sharebolders decide whether: take Racal's offers of share: money. Rucal would prefer by to take the shares, but if to price falls the cash mar ne more attractive.

A Racal spokesman confirm & the view that his company w be fully occupied for t immediate future with torpleting the Decca takeover.

test equipment company Mem-The compulsion on the Nation brain, has been appointed nal Enterprise Board to sell! executive deputy chairman of ranti has been removed by "? the minimaker Computer Techchanges in the Commons to b nology. Membrain was acquired Industry Bill, but there is 8. by Schlumberger in 1977 and plenty of pressure for the sale! Davies' last position was that of inke place. general manager for Schlumberger's UK electronic invest-

Rucal's offer for Decca 12 about £103 million.

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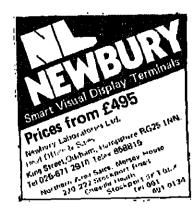




Number 695

Thursday, February 28, 1980

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into smal

business

Briefing

DEC links to SNA hosts

DIGITAL Equipment computers will now link to IBM Systems Network Architecture host machines following the announcement by DEC of Phase III of its DECnet network software This means IBM users will have another alternative to IBM's 8100 distributed system.

DEC is also offering to make DECnet compatible with X25 public packet switching proto-

• Full details: page nine.

Fight for factory

HAVING lost out to Bristol in the public fight to win the first manufacturing plant to be built by Inmos, Northern group Labour MPs are now after the second factory planned by the company. But there is still no news of when, or even if Industry Secretary Sir Keith Joseph will approve the second tranche of £25 million needed to build the Bristol plant. The MPs are to meet representatives of the company's backer, the titional Enterprise Board, next

Quest for Japan

JAPAN is the latest oversens market being attacked by Quest, manufacturer of the Micropad andprint data entry terminal. Quest marketing subsidiary, Micropad Ltd. has appointed as its exclusive Japanese distribu-tor Marubeni Electronics which already distributes kit from firms like Data General, Perkin-Elmer and Texas Instruments.

Braille sale

ANNOUNCED at last week's IMEC exhibition was the sale of a Kurzweil Data Entry Machine all-fount OCR scanner to the Royal National Institute for the Blind to be used in the automatic conversion of printed books into Braille. It will be connected to the RNIB's GEC 4070 at the publishing unit in London. urnkey Software, Kurzwell's UK agent, has made a "substantial contribution" towards the cost of the machine which normally sells at about £80,000.

Chip challenge

THE Challenge of the Chip exhibition at the Science Museum, London, was opened to the public this week by Norman St John-Stevas, Leader of the Commons and Minister for the Arts. The show aims to explain the development of plain the development of microelectronics and the impact of its application.

Hanover launch

A REPLACEMENT for the Univac 90/30 is expected to be launched in time for the launched in time for the launched in time for the launch date pencilled in is April 17. The machine will run under an enhanced but compatible version of the OS/3 operating for interactive working, and will have a dual, bus architecture.

Halifax cash dispenser threat to banks N the fiercest challenge yet to the big Staff and retired members of staff are entitled to deposit cheque accounts, which society in the world, runs a lean data pro

clearing banks, the Halifax Building Society is running a pilot scheme in which customers at six Yorkshire branches will be offered cash dispenser facilities on accounts bearing interest at the standard 10½% rate.

buy GA

UK COMPANIES are among the

unnamed suitors of California

minicomputer manufacturer

General Automation, But a US

firm, Burroughs, is the first to

Thorn and GEC are possible

declare an interest in acquiring

suitors, but neither company

comments on acquisition rum-

ours before making a formal an-

of General Automation last year

and both were interested in

minimaker, Modcomp of

Florida, before Modcomp finally

assured its future through an

agreement with AEG-

If Burroughs were to acquire

General Automation it would be

embarrassing for Swift, the in-

ternational banking funds

transfer network consortium.

since three suppliers were

approved for the terminal Swift

Interface Devices, SIDs — Bur-

roughs, General Automation

When Singer pulled out of the

computer business, its system

lost almost all credibility with

the banks, and nearly all the

Swift interface business has

gone either to Burroughs or

General Automation. If one

acquired the other it would leave

only one effective approved

supplier with two competing

Keceivar

called in at

Compelec

THE cash flow crisis at the

microcomputer systems house Compelec (CW, February 21)

has forced the company into

voluntary liquidation and a

receiver has been appointed. But negotiations are virtually com-

plete for its product line, user base and London headquarters

to be taken over.

Managing director Roderick
Versluys declined to name the
purchaser but a formal announ

cement is expected this week. He

confirmed speculation that confirmed speculation that Compelec had debts of some 2300,000. It is believed that the buyer is already in the small business systems market.

l'elefunken of West Germany.

acquiring another US

Thorn made a detailed study

he company

nouncement.

The pilot, exclusively revealed here last year (CW, July 12, 1979), involves installation of IBM 3624 lobby cash dispensers at two branches in Sheffield, one in Huddersfield and two in Bradford. The experiment was begun with the earlier 3614 device

offer chequebook facilities as well as the cash card, and pay interest at 1%. But members of the public will be able to withdraw up to £200 a day from eard eash accounts paying the ruling huilding society interest rate. The dispensers will be available in normal opening hours, including Satur-

The pilot is to run for 12 months before

Halifax, claimed to be the biggest building cessing installation consisting of an Amdahl 470V/7 and an IBM 370/155 equipped with a holt-on DAT-box which provides the paging facilities required for virtual operation.

The society has converted from MFT and OS/VS-I to MVS. It is also installing Philips ITS 6000 cashier position and back-office terminals in 400 branches under a £10 mil-

THE combined forces of Data 100 and IAL Gemini have launched an offensive in the

UK firms in race to tems market with Bespoke. This is a general-purpose screen

One of the latest Russian com

putors, a second series Rjad ES-1033, has been installed with

Computronics, the big Indian com-puter services and marketing com-

puter services and marketing com-pany. Our picture shows the new computer installed at Compu-tronics' Bombay data centre. The machine, which has 512K-bytes of

release 4.1 of the OS/ES operating

based accounting system that combines Data 100's 400 series terminal hardware with applications packages developed by IAL Gemini especially for the Data 100 kit.

£10,000-plus small business sys-

IAL Gemini already has ex-perience in the small systems market through the ICL 2903 and Singer System Ten work carried out by Synergy Software, the firm acquired by Gemini in 1977, But Bespoke represents a major diversification for Data 100, which is best known as the biggest independent supplier of remote batch terminals to big IBM maintrane

Course the manks time one carrow are not greated to calling on larged relatively small prospective cusromers Data 100 plans to appoint at least aix distributors around the country by the end of this year. They will probably be a mixture of bureaux and office

equipment suppliers. But Data 100 stresses that all Bespoke systems sold by the distributors will be provided with full hardware and software support by Data 100 and fAL Gemini. Data 100 has service engineers located all over the

Though the name Bospoke implies that systems are tallored to each customer's require-

Turn to back page

Norsk breaks into **UK varsity market** disc storage, will then be able to

NORSK DATA has achieved a major breakthrough in the UK university sector with a £250,000 order from Reading University for a system which will provide a wide ranging interactive service for all academic departments. I will take over a lot of work currently handled by a front ended ICL 1904S at the Reading computer centre.

Burroughs and General

Automation both compete in the

banking data communication

markets, and each has well.

developed networking soft-

ware, so that a Burroughs

acquisition would look more like

a move to knock a competitor

out of the market than a merger

of two complementary com-

Automation would take Bur-

roughs into one major new

Turn to back page

Nevertheless, buying General

Reading is installing the Nord-100 and Nord-500 machines announced by Norsk Data last year and which are now the Norwegian firm's two principal computer products (CW, May 17, 1979). Two 16-bit Nord-100s with a total of two megabytes of main memory will 32-bit Nord-500 will be added towards the end of the year.

The installation, which will also include 864 megabytes of

MOS memory and a processor cycling at 300 nanoseconds, is claimed to be equivalent to an IBM 370/145. It is running under support 64 simultaneous users running Basic, Fortran and Pascal programs under Norsk Data's versatile Sintran/VS

Hitachi in talks

TALKS are under way between Hitachi of Japan and a sub-sidiary of St-Gobain-Point-à-Mousson, the industrial con glomerate which now has about 10% of CII-Honeywell Bull. St Gobain declines to say what the talks involve, and CII-Honeywell Bull has strongly denied French Press reports that the talks concern CII-HB mar keting the large-scale IBMcompatible Hitachi M-180 and M-200 mainframes from 1982

NSIDE THIS WEEK'S CW....

SHOW TIME

The exhibition season is in full swing now. On page 15 Donald Kennett reports on IMEC, the US show which has come to Europs, while on pages 20 and 21 Robin Webster previews the UK's travelling exhibition, Computermarket, which will be on the road during March.

JOB VACANCIES PAGES 23-55

ALSO. . . .

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COMPUTERVIEW

THE formation of Insac almost exactly three years 3430 was probably potentially the most exciting move the NEB, generally considered the guardian of lame ducks, had made. It showed that at long last a government organisation was taking note of the calls for support for the fast-growing computer services industry. insac Data Systems, as the company was originally called, was noing to help UK software firms develop and - more importantly - sell products overseas. The archetypal UK company was extremely good at developing systems but notoriously bad at selling them, so the formation of Insac was greeted enthusiastically.

Big names rushed to join CAP was first, letting the NEB get a 30% share in the company in exchange for membership of the new club. Systime followed soon afterwards. SPL and SDL were soon members and Logicawas interested, too.

Plans for Insac to invest £20 million over five years were talked about. By 1982 a turnover of between £100 and £150 million was expected.

Within nine months the top man for a US operation. Seymour Joffe, with impressive experience at NASA, Burroughs and others, was appointed. And Sam Fedida, inventor of viewdata, joined a couple of months later.

anywhere. There was a lot of tulk about US interest on lion pretty quickly."

Insac Products loses its way

the viewdata side and a lot of talk about talks about contracts on the software side. But there was an apparent lack of conviction by Insac after all, it only had one US office, in New York.

Then, at last, there was a contract. Insac and the graphics equipment manufacturer Calcomp agreed on the joint development of software for Calcomp's new interactive graphics system. SPL would do the work.

A couple of months later Systime unveiled a teleprocessing system for Digital Equipment's VAX-11/780 and Insac said it would be selling it in the US.

But there was not much else happening on the software front and, despite much-publicised US interest in viewdata, things moved pretty slowly. A year ago Insac seemed to be revising its original aim of a turnover of up to £150 million by 1982 when Anthony Chandor, the managing director, said, "We have to worry about mak-Sadly, after the fanfares that had accompanied the ing a profit on our £20 million capital investment — and setting-up of Insac, the company did not seem to get that means we have to get up to a turnover of £40 mil-

Late last year Insac took over a US softwarek. Global Data, which gave it an office on the West. Global Duta, which gave it all office on the wester But the acquisition was talked about not as a wester further promoting UK software, but as a meaning monstrating viewdata to a wider audience.

The growing emphasis on viewdata, possibly h detriment of the Insae's original aims + to selling ware of its member companies — led to the spine the firm into Insac Viewdata and Insac Product

But, far from bringing attention back to insact? nal intentions, this split was followed by troub; hoard level in Insac. Len Taylor, managing dies. Logica, and Peter Adams, chairman of SPL RE Adams said that nearly all the Insac staff had go the viewdata company and only a handful remain handle software marketing. SPL was even al about getting private backers to buy the NEB's ale

Insac now needs either a kick in the pants morale-boosting shot in the arm to put it backw road to its original target of selling UK software, seas! The hiving off of its viewdata business. curiously, its current boardroom troubles, give ! chance to get a clearer vision of that target, which to have become almost totally obscured.

It would be a pity for the UK software industry!

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Ansi should hibernate

WE have just finished one of the less cumbersome and it certainly Meek's article about the revisions to Fortran 77 being Every considered by the American National Standards Institute

Ansi is in danger of creating diagram does not make it any set of intrinsic functions and University of Saiford

first standard-conforming full does not solve the transpor-Fortran 77 compilers and would tability problem (although this

Every new application of a syntax. Apart from enhanced another 20th-Century dinosaur is discussing could be implelike PL/I in spite of the core-plus-modules approach. Merely mented simply in existing For-tran 77 compilers by means of dividing a language like a Venn CALL statements, an extended Computing Laboratory

enhanced input and output facilities. We feel that the best interests

like to comment on Brian should suit some manufac- of the Fortran user would be served if the Ansi committee hibernated for a few years as it language should not need new did after Fortran 86 standard was published. Committees can control structures such as CASF. certainly standardise existing and WHILE, much of what Ansi practice; no one can accelerate

D. M. VALLANCE

Internal auditors cannot opt

Working with auditors

WITH reference to Focus' piece on auditors (CW, January 24), any auditor worthy of the confidence management has placed in his function would, after reading such nonsense as the statement that he is a "necessary evil" when required to audit systems running on a

computer, choke in his beer! Most leading companies and public authorities have suffered from an element of such statutory audit calamities, but have now realised that the accountant versus DP professional syndrome can be overcome by employing professional internal auditors who have a valid interest in vouching DP systems, in business operations of which

they are required to be familiar. No monetary limit, such as the level of an audit fee, affects the inplementation of the long-term planning of effective and efficient internal audit assessments, these having the objective of constructive assistance and comment given to the DPM in order to improve the comlitability. In other words, internal audit is both independent and objective but at the same time the vehicle of assisting in identifying problem areas and reporting the various options

open to improve and secure the DP systems design and opera-The argument between who is more efficient at the function of reviewing DP systems is unimportant, as both parties have

faults of their own. The object

should be to get auditors and DP

such as in the example of the EDP Committee of the Institute of Internal Auditors, who have provided codes and practices for EDP audit areas by "sharing" the knowledge and expertise they have for this purpose.

As time passes and on-site training improves, the attitudes portrayed in the Focus narrative will weaken and die as most future major DP reviews will be undertaken by locally employed internal nudit personnel in the same way as applied to manual. mechanical and electronic sys-

out of their responsibilities in the DP field, but it is a pity that they will have to bear the burden of the mistaken attitudes of the Member of the EDP Committee

Institute of Internal Auditors THE EDITOR welcomes letters

commenting on subjects published in Computer Weekly, or on original topics. All letters must be accompanied by the writer's name and address, not necessarily for publication.

Law Library

UNTIL one sees how successful England, Scotland and Wales. the National Law Library is in A company which I co-raising the remainder of the founded, Infolex Services, curthe National Law Library is in £150,000 start-up funding it is seeking (CW, January 31) and commercially subsequently how effective it is computer-assisted legal inforin corrying out its declared mation retrieval service. This, objectives of financing research, launched in Nov. uot databases and acting as a knowledgeable. independent and objective presenter of online retrieval systems to the legal sector, one would perhaps have reservations about its status and per-

formance in the long term. However, although I may be biased, being a member of the Society for Computers and Law - out of whose report the national library sprang - 1 would heartily endorse the timeliness and significance of the initiative taken in the library's incorporation with the

rently offers the UK's first such available uses-the Post-Office's -Prestel viewdata system and provides to lawyers by the closed user group

facility, a set of up-to-date

references to current law. Infolex hopes to be able to supply a portable acousticallycoupled Prestel TV set terminal to the national library in its tour of local Law Societies between February and April, and one must applaud the library's initiative in bringing online retrieval services to the wide attention of the "grass roots" of the legal profession in this way.

Dr STEPHEN CASTELL backing of the Law Societies of Witham, Essex

1984 and all that

THIS week's example of the strange things people say in the media about computers was sent in by J. Priot of Manchester, who wins £5,. in a word, we can summarise the afficone-chip technology thus: "Man dan only make things DO. He can't make them BE."

Lancoshire Evening Telegraph

Views on S Africa

published support for "our side" in the letter from Don Gray of Computer Personnel, South Africa (CW. February 7). Speaking as one who enjoyed the wartime hospitality of South Africa while serving in the Royal Navy, I can only quote what

FROM what sort of moral position does the managing director of Computer Personnel, Johannesburg, lecture us on freedom

of choice and individual liberty? (CW, February 7)? He should have made it clear Broughton that the money and opportunity Stockbridge

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MICHAEL CARMICH of which he spoke were strictly Hampshire

pany has been researching into advanced electronic office sys-tems since the early 1970s but has been slow in coming up with new products. One analyst THE first 16-megabyte Amdahl Wilkes Computing attributes this to "corporate machine in Europe, a 470V/7, is bureaucracy, politics and inbreeding", and points to the office of the Credit Suisse Bank healthy profits being made by in Zurich. It replaced a V/6 We have TEXAS TERMINAS such smaller specialist word processing companies as CPT, ex stock

Xerox's costs are expected to 1977). The V/7 took over from continue to rise as it is taking on more staff and has to make redoubled R&D efforts to fend off increasing Japanese competition in the copier market. Rank Xerox, traditionally a valuable source of profit for the company, is becoming less so as economic growth in its trading

NEDC calls for government spur on office technology

THE government should take a the emerging UK "informatics" vanced office technology by pressing ahead now with setting up working systems in the Civil Service. That is the recommendation of the Office Machinery Sector Working Party of the National Economic Development Council, which is con-cerned about giving a boost to ment and development policies.

IBM launches low-cost 5120

IBM has announced its anticipated low-cost version of the 5100 desk-top computer as the month, the system has a base printer and Basic brings the price up to £8,200. As with the other 5100 series systems, APL is also available and a second obtional dual diskette unit and month, the system has a base price of £5,577 for the central unit which consists of a nine-live-inch display, rather than the 1.2 megabyte floppy disc drives, a keyboard and 16K-bytes of Doubling main memory to 32k-bytes, adding an 80 chps January 26, 1978)

University and hospital in £1m research centre appeal

BRUNEL University and Hillingdon Hospital have launched an appeal for £1 million to help create a joint research and development

The partnership has already attracted abou £150,000 for the building, which will be sited between the hospital and university and will house laboratories, workshops, a library and a

One product of past collaborative work between Brunel and the hospital which is now going into production is the Auditory Response Cradis. This micro-based device automatically checks a baby's ability to hear at the age of about four days. The normal testing age is between two and three years.

WP loss

division

18% to \$563 millio

hits Xerox

SUBSTANTIAL losses in

Xerox's word processing and

facsimile operations have

seriously affected the company's

US domestic profit, so that last

year's growth over 1978 was

negligible. Only healthy figures from overseas sales helped the

overall profit figure to rise by

lt is estimated that the

Dallas-based Office Products

Division, which deals with the

products that are not copiers,

lost \$40 million last year on a turnover of \$300 million. This is

largely attributable to the lack

of competitive edge in Xerox's

word processor ranges; the 800

hard-copy machine is old-

fashioned and the 850 screen

system is expensive. Substantial

sums are also being spent on

R&D into the "office of the fu-

ture", but US analysts are wor-

ried about the company's

chances of making a success in

Xerox sees no early end to the

office products losses. The com-

that market.

To test a selected baby, it is placed in a cradie that rocks on special bearings at each end, like a hammock.

two compared to the many hours of manual itory checking methods.

Small earphones are placed in the baby's ears and the micro automatically checks its breathing rate and other life signs. Tests usually last no more than a minute or

Mike Bennett, developer of the system at Brunel, says that an accuracy in excess of 97% can be achieved in most cases. He expects it initially to cost about £10,000. Our picture shows Dr Sam Tucker of don Hospital carrying out an auditory

CAFS is an information

retrieval system offering very

fast hardware search facilities

operating on disc files and is

particularly appropriate for

searches through masses of data

The Post Office carried out a

12-month experiment using

ICL's own CAFS at Bracknell.

end 1903A processor were in-

stulled in Leatherhead and Leeds

for use by directory inquiry

Amdahl 16Mb

now in operation at the head

which was installed in 1977 to

run in conjunction with three

the V/6 last May and is now running with the bank's current

IBM kit, two 3033s and one 168,

installed a second Amdahl

mainframe, an eight-megabyte

V/7, at a special development

centre where it is being used for

testing programs and various

Continuing its emphasis on

directing public procurement to

act as a "launch pad" for new

office products, the working

party also recommends that the government should undertake a full study of the ways other

Last November the bank also

IBM 370/168s (CW, October 13

system for

Terminals linked to a front-

such as telephone directories.

customer for CAFS

FIRST customer for ICL's Content Addressable File Store, CAFS, is Central Selling

Organisation, an associated company of the big diamond house De Beers. Meanwhile the Post

Office has concluded its trials of CAFS for directory inquiries and is evaluating the results of

The CAFS 800 at De Beers is to be used with the company's existing ICL 2960 mainframe running

DME/1900 George 3 emulator. ICL has not yet completed the CAFS interface software for VME. De Beers will get its CAFS in 15 months' time and will use it as the basis of a management information



Baric acquires bureau group BARIC Computing Services, the bureau owned jointly by ICL and Barclays Bank, has taken over Wastern Data Processing, an

Exeter-based bureau group with a turnover of more than £500,000 and a staff of over 50. Machines operated by Was-tern are an ICL 2904 at Exeter and a 2903 at Eastern Data Pro-cessing of Witham, Essex, a Western subsidiary in which Baric has taken a 60% share. Baric now owns 100% of Western and its other sub-sidiary, Agricultural Computing.

Geest launches family based on Texas' 16-bit micro

GEEST Micro Systems, part of Geest Computer Services, has formally launched its family of microcomputers based on Texas Instruments 16-bit micros. The two smaller systems, the G3 and G4, are based on Texas' TMS 9900, while the top-end machine, the G5, uses the more powerful 990/5 device.

For use with the three systems Geest has also introduced an integrated set of packages for accounting, stock recording and payroll. There is also what is said to be the first comprehensive set of packages for civil and structural engineers on a microcomputer. The packages will be demonstrated for the first time publicly at Computermarket '80 at the Albany Hotel, Birmingham, on March 4/5.

All the Geest systems come with 64K-bytes of RAM and other hardware features include floppy disc storage on smaller machines and up to 200 megabytes of hard disc storage

Q-PAC - Payroll &

Personnel System

(60) Personnel

usaje Maintonance (est Da Loasing 150 lo (40) por mount. Ministrum (colar

Defined 2 years.

Terms of switchers in Europe As, tre

Developer (2 Packager Pragrams)

Description A florested related system with

influent reducer come, and rathe from

implemented for means of food and a

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Parameters provide powerful a factorist

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Now you can be a software expert in (60) Personnel USA Supplier & terms. O PAC America Inc \$20,000 to \$40,000 Maintenance 10% par Leasing \$600 to \$800 per month Minimum rental personal year UK Supplier & terms: C-PAC Servicus Limited (4,000 to \$12,000 5 years usely Maintenance by Da Leasing 3,223 easy lessons

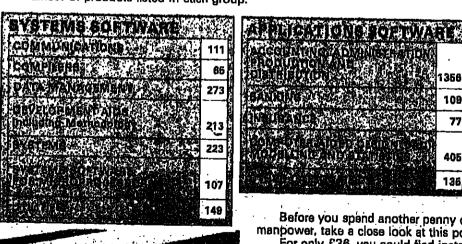
New guide to world's top programs

Computer User's Year Book introduces a revolutionary advance in software knowledge. The new International Directory of Software 1980-81 describes

3,223 independent software products covering almost every conceivable computing function. These products are the result of millions of hours of systems development. They are available to you now without the need for

additional hardware investment. In the Directory each entry is indexed at least three ways, leading you straight to those products which meet your needs and will run on your

Products are listed under, 107 classifications of systems and applications software. The table below shows the main groupings and the number of products listed in each group.



Specimen Data on each product is

presented in a disciplined format nabling you to jick out the salient factor n each entry

Parameters (univide powerful calculations)
Includes enabling complex up to gross
and bonus calculations to be dastly make
input forms are also parameterized. Thus
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when they introduced O PAC. A range of
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reports are produced using the report
writer Recurd layouts are provided for
costing and general ledger interfaces as
well as special report requirements.
Package includes for payroll
personnel labor costing report writing
slatificity requirements management reporting Production to pasyll maintained
for all income and special security Laxos.

First operational: 1969

First operational: 1959
No. of users worldwide 500+
No. in UK-100+
No. in UK-100+
No. in UK-100+
No. in UK-100+
Interactive mode: Yos
COMETON TO SERVICE STATEMENT OF THE S CONFIGURATION REQUIREMENTS
IBM 380/370/30/4300 Series 64Kb OR/DOS/MVS CL 1900 series /2903-4 24Kw George ICL 2900 series VME /DME ier computors by arrangement Paper Japo card, disk, mag tape input

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Take the drudgery out of picketing...

WAFCHING the flying steel sectors come lawyers, who pickets shiver through the early morning hours, I suddenly had the thought that here is an obvious growth area for British robotics. Those nuckets are on the job for far. longer hours than when they are at work. Why not save them all the drudgery and have microprocessor-driven

Audio tape loops could enable them to shout out their that direction, I'm not sure slogans endlessly with no prohiems of hourseness. With a simple cam follower device the machines could shake their placards up and down.

We could also have microprocessor-driven policefreeing all those hundreds of bobbies to go and hant down computer criminals. During stack periods the micros would run Al programs to try and figure out Lord Denning's judgments.

This brings to mind the idea I first heard from industry pundit Adrian Norman, that the solution to the unemployment. problem is a vast expansion of the quaternary sector of the economy. After the farming. "This one's approved by Or Boy manufacturing, and service mon."

spend their time arguing about things. Norman points out that unemployable as many people on the dole queues may seen they are all keen and aggress ive arguers about last Saturday's football, the Miss World competition, and so on, and could easily be trained to make this a full-time job.

Mind you, looking at the US which is already moving l would like to see it happen here. It won't be long before all any one time half the US population will be involved in aw suits.

Some enterprising soul has set up a database devoted en tirely to IBM litigation.



In place of jargon

idea of computers taking over. but after this news from the West Midlands I may have to

eat my words. Words are what it is all about, as it seems a special language has been devised for use by Birmingham City Council staff to make things easy for the computer. A set of words has been dreamed up for dealing with planning applications, and each has to be eight characters long, to fit in with someone's idea of what computers can and cannot handle.

In "plan-talk", properties are

described by a combination of

words such as "uglyfront" (fairly clear what that means). "prayuses" (religious buildings), "smelly-d" (Indian

"keepshop" (the retaining of facilities) "facemats" (facing materials) and "treegard" (protecting This is supposed to replace

"the cumbersome bureaucratic jargon of the past," would you As if this weren't bad en

ough, it is claimed that this perverse computer disinguishes numerical data b putting the word "number" front of it. Some programme has forgotten to remove the word on output, and this explains strange council notices that have been appearing such as a planning application fo "Number fifty greyhound res ting kennels.

GILB'S MYTHODOLOGY

A LOT of readers were interested in my description of TRW Systems' N2 charting method (ČW, December 6, 1979). Among the correspondence was a letter from P. S. T. Buckerfield, who is data facilities engineer in Rolls-Royce's Aero Division.

He wrote, "Your note on the N2 chart reminded me that I worked on a system for matrix representation of data relationships nearly a decade ago.

"What I devised was a scheme not merely for tabular display of system relationships, starting from data requirements, but for a design tool which conceivably could lead to automatic programming of a system from a statement of requirements.

"Very briefly, any system is describable in terms of owner/ member relationships between its parts. If a matrix is formed by ussigning the Y coordinate as the set of owning parts and the X coordinate as the set of member parts (which can be identical with the owner parts), then the elements of the matrix would be T to indicate the presence of an owner/member relationship between two items in the Y and X coordinates respectively. Absence of a T, (or a zero) implies lack of such relationship.

"Thus, for any particular application, only the relevant relationships or links are ent-"Now, if the items along the Y

and X coordinates are names of data items, then we may consider a database covering a variety of user applications and containing all the associated relationships. In order to build up such a database, each application can be expressed in terms of a sub-matrix applying to that application only. If all the submatrices are then summed by matrix addition, the sum matrix will contain all the relationships relevant to all the applications so far loaded, and the value in each element of the database matrix will indicate the number of application occurrences of a

"The matrix elements may be further incremented by use of a weighting factor depending on such variables as frequency of occurrence, priority or import-

ance of the relationship, etc. "A complex system may be

N² charting and automated design methods: a reader's view

offers other virtues, such as the ability to deduce the structural form of a system. For example, if all the links are on a diagonal. then a simple string structure is indicated. Links on a particular row indicate a single rank of elements on the same level. Multiple entries in a row indicate branching (a tree structure). Multiple column entries indicate a multiple parent. Both multiple row and multiple column entries including common elements indicate a network structure. If a link appears be-

ring is present. "The principle lends itself to expression of relationships at any level - basic element, segments, files, databases, or any type of object - data items. programs, systems; in any meaningful owner/member

low a principal diagonal, then a

"Calculation and manipulation may be performed on matrices to yield other/useful

"Given the effort for development, it is possible that much of system design and construction could be automated. An ideal language for this would be APL, with its capability to handle "If suitable report generators

were designed, the system

would comprise a valuable data dictionary, which would be built as a by-product of system de-Buckerfield does not mention the many attempts that have been made to create automatic

design systems. Let me mention a few: the built up from a set of simpler systems in this way. The method alive might be Professor Daniel

Teichrow's ISDOS project at the University of Michigan (see his paper in Infotech report on Software Reliability).

TRW Systems has a number of automated system design aids at several levels of detail: for example, RSL-Data Descriptions (Requirements Specification Language) in the TRW internal publication, A Requirements Engineering Methodology for Real Time Processing Requirements. The fact that even TRW, with its effort and investment in this sector does not have full design automation. is a measure of the difficulty of

invitation from Christer Jaderlund to see a presentation of Cogitor, a form of automatic system design. I know enough of Jaderlund's previous work in this area to treat it with respect. Cogitor is described as "an intellectual robot which supports thinking and problem solution in all phases of system development. It interprets and translates system specifications in a natural language into system solutions in system-matrix format. The solutions are tested automatically. Finally the solutions can be manually or automatically translated into a program — for example Cobol."

Cogitor is based on a Zilog microprocessor and an ISC colour VDU. Those who want more details might start by writing to Systematik AB, Box 3369, S 163 03 Spanga, Sweden. Otherwise, I'll try to share more details, as I get them, with CW readers.

This list is not exhaustive by



and author on computing

any means, but it should serve document the point that v should first get to know the existing automated design prijects before deciding what v... can do to further the state of

As readers of my colur might suspect, I have my or pet ideas on automated systdesign.

My basic thesis is that son: thing like an automated yer, of the Design by Objective tools, which I described in number of columns in 1979, c be automated. I also believed: this is the main deficiency of present tools: they cannot be in attribute specifications(o On my desk this week I got an reliability, portability and like) and translate these high-level design technologic specifications. Too much what exists is really eitherra generators, high-level proce ral languages or structured processing systems.

These are not truly space design aids. Anyway, until ideas are working in t automated form on my App would be highly sceptical at their practical validity. I we only hope that the act of into automate them will make clear to me that I don't ke enough about the process. It perhaps I will learn more

Perhaps there are example software design autor which some readers would! to share with us either in lest or article form. Be assured? we are waiting to hear from) One of the functions of " computer Press is to information what exists so that we can a. reinventing the wheel!

Retrieval package devised by UK Atomic Energy Authority AN information retrieval package aimed Called Lexiboss, the package runs on the National Centre of Systems Reliability users and over 200,000 documents.

O'Connell said that this was be-

cause the UK operation under

Peter Williams had been run-

Commenting on the coming

IBM H-series, O'Connell agreed

with the view that it was un-

likely to appear before [98]

adding, "We will be ready for it

when it comes, and we will be

He would not express an opi-

nion of what technology IBM

might use - "we never discuss

IBM unless we have to" - but

dismissed the likelihood of

Josephson Junctions being used.

"I could retire in 1991 and not be

worried by machines based on

Technical director Andy

Wang supported this view and

said that Amdahl would be using

ECL devices in its new range.

Josephson Junctions," he said.

better off because of it."

ning a year longer.

Atomic Energy Authority, in conjunction volumes of free text. with Turnkey Software of Amersham. Lexiboss was developed at the UEAFA Lexiboss can deal with 26 simultaneous

systems has been devised by the UK introductical information, and large

AN information retrieval package and a combining the facilities of dutabase at combining the facilities of dutabase beginning the dutabase be at combining the facilities of orthogonal information and large systems with text search handle structured, interrelated data. Systems with text search handle structured, interrelated data. Systems of Flority Company of Structured levels of security, are provided for in system of Florida Computer in Miann, A Lexiboss. Some users input data or edit

PDP-11 running under RSTS E with and classify it when it is in, while others

Different classes of user, and different



FIVE out of six hotel workers who were accused of setting his to the West End offices of Euroco Computer Services were cleared of the arson allegation at Marlborough Street Court, London, when the prosecution withdrew the charge.

But all six were sent on had for trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court on other charges.

The six are now charged with entering offices in Newman Street, W1, on September 22 as trespassers and stealing wine. video equipment, three calculators, a calculator cover, a transformer and a fan heater, the property of Euroco Computer Services and of Learnmouth and Burchett Management Services and a clock and a lighter belonging to James Hole.

Hole is training manager of Learnmouth and Burchett.

The accused are Anthony Houson, 19. a steward; Bradley Febring, 23, Australian, a chef: Paul Taylor, 22, a commis waiter: Nigel Beach, 19, a chef; George Coleby, 18, unemployed; and Brian Kingdom, 21.

Kingdom alone faces a new charge of damaging by fire offices and contents, belonging to Euroco, Learnmouth and Burchett and the British Health Care Export Council.

Grant to university

A \$2 MILLION grant has been

Amdahl predicts a 40% rise in orders

lease meant an income of about

the long term, but it can cause

problems of cash forecasting,"

To cope with these changes in

the market and to support future

development and expansion

Amdahi had arranged a \$250

million line of credit in the US

and a further \$100 million had

As far as the market in Europe

was concerned, O'Connell was

emphatic that Germany would

be the best area for Amdahl. He

rated it to have twice the poten-

"This can be a good thing in

£50,000 a quarter.

said O'Connell,

wide deliveries of 40% over the produce £1.5 million whereas a (979 figure of more than 100 nachines was forecast for 1980 by Bill O'Connell, senior vicepresident for marketing, in London last week.

With the company's treasurer Ed Thompson, and Dr Andy Wang, director of technology, O'Connell is touring Europe making a series of presentations to users and prospective cus-

husiness volume to be up by about 20% in 1980 but agreed that the swing from buying to leasing had caused some problems. Sales of machines had fallen from about 90% of busi-

O'Connell said he expected been raised in Europe. tial of the "other three majors", ness to 50%. As an example of the UK, France and Italy. The the impact this could have on UK at present has about 18 users

Bolton and Bury opt for ICL ALTHOUGH a number of local and an ICL 1703 remote job enauthorities have recently try system. To retain the facilswitched from ICL to other manufacturers' machines (CW,

joint order for an ICL 2956/10 system valued at £700,000. The two neighbouring authorities now operate a joint 1903T running under George 3 year.

January 31), Bolton and Bury

horough councils have placed a

itles offered by George 3 the councils will implement ICL's DME+ on the 2956. Also ordered is the recently announced Range Cobol compiler that is a development of the VME/B C2

Cobol compiler The new machine is expected computer unit based on an ICL to be installed at the end of this

These gave the necessary reliability combined with speed and capacity, In respect of devices based on gallium arsenide, Wang said he thought that these would become economically practical

> Several companies are already claiming successful development with this material.

Quicker response with ITT TRUCK maker Foden of Sandbach Cheshire, has installed a 30-terminal ITT 3280 visual display delivery of parts to depots and system to improve its response The £60,000 system is a plugtime to customers' inquiries. All compatible replacement for the IBM 3270 Information display sysdepartments in the company

update the relevant parts of the over the next five to 10 years. database held under IBM's IMS but it was likely that this techdatabase management system. The information is then systemic to nology would be used sooner in government-supported projects. enable the design department to put together a final apocification

TASIORIC.

EUTURE

and easier transmission to a printer of a screenful of text. vithin half a day on any configura G Pictured here is one of the many tion of vahicle required and for the ITT 3280 screens.

ors around the world

of hetter controls on the terminal

tem previously used. The ITT sys-tem is said to have the advantages given to the University of Minnesota by CDC to help establish a development centre for interoelectronics and informafrom Systems

FOCUS

THAT both the IDPM and the BCS are broadly in agreement with the recommendations of the Finniston Committee on Engineering is rather strange. The BCS would hardly recognise a computer engineer unless there was a brace of degrees attached to his toolbag, while few IDPM members would regard the engineer as being a bosom compa-

The report's proposal to estagineering Authority to be administered by the Department of Industry will hopefully by pass the computer industry. Setting up yet another government quango is a proposal guaranteed

Cops!

CONGRATULATIONS to all those carle-eyed readers who spotted our statement that Roxburgh Electronics' FMC-100 three-inch mini-floppy disc drive is "designed to in-terfere with eight-bit microcom-puters" (CW, February 7). The word should, of course, have been "inter-

And our item on the eight-part BBC television series on database systems (CW, January 31) did not make it clear that the programmes were only part of an Open University course on computer-based informa-tion systems, which is being sup-ported by the university is computing unrules.

The world of the engineer

blems and probably generate yet been summoned, it being

A few moments spent with a computer team would quickly dispel the report's complacency where professional engineers are concerned. As a breed, computer engineers are very indeendently minded. The common link between IBM engineers and the rest is their in-bred insistence that computing is a science based on technology. Compromise is just not on. By-passing the fault, hoping for the best or finger-crossing are not valid expedients. Preferred operational mode is "everything off" and everybody - except the engineering team - out.

When approached, engineers adopt a casual air of indifference. Yes, they believe they have traced the fault, but until the appropriate spare board arrives they cannot be sure. Meanwhile they would not ad-

to maintain all the present pro- that the part in question has not lunchtime back at the engineering base.

gineering service manager face of logic, opt for independence arrives, possibly out of curiosity independence of the service as to where the service independence of the service of th as to where so many of his personnel resources seem to spend their collective time. He gravely advises the DP management that he is not satisfied with the use of his machine. It is being grossly overworked and it is not surprising that faults are escalating. Additional PM time must be allocated plus a reappraisal of site engineering charges.

Engineers, then, are seldom the DPM's best friend. The thoughts prompted by the Finniston Report that most computer professionals can be regarded as engineers is notably disturbing.

DPMs' skills are now far removed from the engineering Meanwhile they would not advise resumption of operations.

Further interrogation reveals

oncouragement. Any leaning

which is done, is orit towards the company not computer. Any steering the led on committee, not a control panel. The Figure plan would have the compindustry labelled and class — engineers and the rest.

Fortunately, there is need time to be lost. The Deport ing a conference on the pro-sals in October. Let's hope of representative bodie

10 years of

of February 26, 1970. TWO major lobal at Coventry and Greenist for ICL System 4/70s to their Lec IIIe Followers and Greenist Browist entered the fest browist entered the fest browist

entered the Table per entry market. They not roughs, Friden, Trand and roughs, Friden, Trand frontes. Ladder formal tronics. Ladder formal tronics being based on He wine being based on He Packard ? tkie application

INDICATIVE This week marks Scicon's twentieth birthday. An historic occasion in an industry as young as ours. After all, other companies are proud to celebrate

their tenth anniversary.
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by Claire Gooding

for programmers and analysts



Programmers' biggest enemy

prompted the Press to indulge eavily in crystal gazing and there have been quite a few predictions which, if taken seriously, would fill the average programmer with panic.

way exempt from this trend, and luded in our glimpse into the future was the conviction that in several years' time there will be

and similar productivity tools are not something of the future and do already exist. We asked Cobra. why they are not more widely used (Page Six, January 17).

cost an arm and a leg?

grade an older machine.

IS THIS WHAT YOU

EXPECT TO LOSE WHEN

YOUR COMPUTER

GROWS OLD?

Sadly, the answer is yes.

many years after they first appear.

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rammers. ing with software generators Alan Heywood-Jones.
The programmer's greatest since 1967 and for him they not Long before this.

enemy, as seen by the enligh- only exist, but are very much his tened, is the software generator. bread and butter. He is now in In January we said that charge of a one-man business automatic software generators called Cobra Systems and Programming which provides consultancy and development on

Cobra, which stands for Cobol Rearranger, was conceived in

generator and a validating sysem," said Hamilton, "and basically we just made them Can a new lease of life for your computer simpler to use.

"When we both left Honeywell we met up again in 1966 at Plessey in Liverpool.

"Several school-leavers were there being trained as programmers who made all the usual mistakes, so we decided to do the same. The only trouble was that Plessey had an ICL machine, and at that time there were no report generators with

"We got one of the brightest trainees to write an update routine in Plan. At that stage Cobol came along and with it Datavet, an update that performed control breaks.

"So far so good, but there were still two major areas where we were not progressing: data control — because we had no data dictionaries at our disposal, and also lack of flexibility. We needed to generate Cobol and also needed a dictionary system.

"Cobra was born in 1968. Originally known as CLS, or Cobol Library System, we changed the name as the facilities were extended. I left Plessey in 1971, but they still use Cobra there in a slightly different form, ICL. which I joined at that point, now sells Cobra with all its Ansi 81 structured programm

Basically, Cobra is a mixture of Cobol and Cobol extensions or macros, but as Hamilton pointed out, "People tend to get scared off when you talk about macros. Extensions sounds processing

When the program has found gram look like a progra specification," explained Har a Cobol extension it executes a program written in Dollar going to get shorter, they t anguage - which is just like Cobol but has the \$ sign in front get more efficient." of each verb - then converts the pseudo-Cobol into real Cobra after several years a-Cobol, and the output is a Cobol

"The input can be a Cobol or a tions where automatic generative use." pseudo-Cobol statement," ex-plained Hamilton. "Each operand is a parameter. The program reads the parameters as data and generates a piece of Cobol source. The clever bit is that you can actually state whereabouts in the source pro-

gram you want the code to go. "Cobra enables a Cobol program to be generated using only a third, if not less, of the usual code. Extensions are not new and have been used since 1963. However, if an installation is not writing its own extensions it is recessary to have a library.

"With Mark III there will be a library to be used by any instal lation," said Hamilton, "so just the right amount of code can be generated to do a job - no more, no less.

We asked Hamilton if he had encountered much hostility to

ling it is one of the most difficult Long before this, however, things," he admitted, "I'u." Hamilton had been interested in actually heard programmers. making the programmer's job that they don't like it because simpler, and while working for the boring bits have been take! out, leaving just the parts where Honeywell and Plessey had already made several important they have to use their brains !! breakthroughs with Edward think that's the most attraction

Another popular argume "Honeywell had a report against automatic generators, that use of them will reduce staff. "No tool reduces staff" said Hamilton adamant: "Usually the numbers of state are increased, not decrease because a wider range of people are brought in to write pr grams."

But the answer to the quest of why software generators; not more widely used, is m.* more complicated. Often we an installation has a settimer a fixed budget within which: complete a project, they like be able to stick to it.

If some wise guy comesal: and says "Look, I can do a: half the time and use half? number of staff," nine times. of ten he won't be greeted to open arms. No-one likes has: their routines interfered with

"The aim is to make a f

ton. "So not only are progra-

The Swiss Bank now "

Are there any other insli-

similar systems in Switzerlant

tors are put to effective use

SPRING is in the alt.

SPRING is in the maturally your young(i) Purally your young(i) Purally in a series fancy has lightly turns to thoughts of finding a series to large to large to large

Tennyson). Here is the issue

SPRING

RAINS

-B-R-1. N.G.--;

GREEN

PLAINS

See page 53 for solution

ten digh

Puzzler

represented.

UK, Europe and the Middle "People must start thinking East, although the decision to terms of the effect on a busic withdraw the licence from CAPif something is finished in his CPP was taken some time ago. the time," said Hamilton, "10": During the handover period terms of how many progra-CPP has had a co-operative and mers will be saved." Hamilton is currently work:

amicable relationship with its successor, which is a part-owned subsidiary of Boole and under cuntract for Dataskiv. the Swiss Bunk. In a deal of Babbage, and has used the time Dataskil he nets as a consulto build up its own Improve for the firm while develop range of products, now likely to and creating new products. provide healthy competition, Some of the products ..

rently awaiting release in!has released an extended verfacilities and a TP program January 3), the data security generator for the ICL 2903 F and housekeeping system deve-loped by Boole and Babbage for IBM 300, 370 and compatible systems under OS, VS and ANALYSE function, which currently available, is a Co extension which can set w whole program except for r

Pearl available on Classics

Language, is to become availa- utilities applications. ble on the Modular Computer Services' range of Classic com-

widely used there in metals in- man help.

nounced a DOS to OS converter

UXBRIDGE

cutive Tuesdays, April 22-May 20, 1980. if. F. R. A. Hopgood, Head of Computing Division, Fi

> Further datails from: The Secretary

SOFTWARE FILE

Independent to fill IBM support gap

company is planning to fill the vacuum left by the change in policy. David Coplowe and Mike Godman have set up Synapse Computer Services in the belief that many users feel vulnerable because it is now their responsibility to diagnose and circumvent problems before attempting to obtain a solution from IBM.

service similar to the one mo-

familiarity with the ins and outs of an individual installation and

the products it uses will get the

system back on the road as fast

torists get from the AA; a 24

our call-out service in which

The company aims to offer a

marketing

As from May 1, 1980, ESC will

be sole distributors for Boole

and Babbage products in the

The breakdown service is part of a larger scheme of support, THE European Software Co. the supplying general advice on de-Irish systems house formed in May 1978, has opened an office velopments in the systems software field and guidance on packages, as well as systems in Stockholm to market Boole programming expertise to geneand Babbage products as well as rate, maintain and troubleits own range. The Swedish branch marks the completion of shoot the customer's systems the company's plan to cover the software. Godman emphasised that Syn major software markets of Europe with sales offices and sub-

apse is not trying to replace inhouse staff, but to supply specialist knowledge at a higher le-vel which will help them make the most of their environment. "In effect we are offering the

same service that IBM used to, but no longer does; the friendly neighbourhood systems engineer. Employing freelances is costly and offers no continuity, whereas Synapse staff will have detailed knowledge and docu mentation of an installation backed by extensive systems software experience, covering VS and VSE, CICS, DMS, and products like Librarian and Pan-

The European Software Co valet.

"The idea is to cover the "The idea is to cover the sion of Secure (Software File, danger of fewer and fewer people who know what's going on." He added: "Even IBM has encouraged us; we're already giving support to customers where it's just not worth the ef-fort to IBM."

PEARL, the Process and Experi-dustries, power distribution. ment Automation Real time continuous process and public

Modeomp has already successfully implemented ISA The language has received Process Fortran and Coral 96, considerable support from the West German Ministry of Research and Technology and is rating systems with West Ger-

Job control pack converter

Clarka Computer Software, in Clarka Computer Software, which has been steadily winning a market for its job control system JOL (Software File, January 17, November 15, 1979) has announced a DOS to OR COMPUTER.

ing agreement with Software Module Marketing of California, and has just sold its disc space management system DMS/OS to Shell Australia, stready a user of JOL. DMS/OS interfaces with IRMA-BACE interfaces with IBM's RACF and other see The company has a market-

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nor of: "Computing Techniques

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Help for small workshops

SMALL to medium-sized work-shops which have no computer facilities can now have access to the Computer Aided Planning and Estimating program from the Department of Industry's National Universe regions. It covers all company machining accounts and common machining accounts.

Engineering Laboratory.

The Cape system has been adapted for use on an eight-bit can be extended to incorporate specialised processes and microcomputer with VDU, which at their function documentation.

Online information system for hospital other functions such as

T-ASK available on PDP-11s

THE online interactive query fa- "DEC T-ASK has incorporated cility developed by Cincom Systems for use with its data-unique needs of the DEC envibase management system Total is now available to users of Digital Equipment PDP-11s. T-ASK is said to be a "simple English-like information retrieval language" which enables database users to extract up-to

According to director David

Coplowe, the yearly agreement

with Synapse would amount to

less than half the cost of a full-

time systems programmer, since

users would only pay for the

CISI, the French parent of the

UK bureau SIA, has taken a 40%

share in Centro de Calculo de

Sabatell, CCS, the bureau sub-

sidiary of the Savings Bank of

Sabatell in Spain. CCS, based

near Barcelona, operates two

CDC Cyber 73s and one Cyber

171, Its turnover in 1979 was £6.1

service they require.

Stake in Spain

According to Terry Booth, Cincom's UK manager, T-ASK was developed for the DEC equipment following an excel- lytechnics, its dozen users inlent response to the IBM T- clude Surrey University, North ASK, which now has more than East London Polytechnic and 70 users worldwide. He added: Oxford Polytechnic.

Algol 60 compiler proves a success

THE Algol 60 compiler launched ast year for Prime users by the software house Wootton, Jeffreys and Partners is having success among colleges and po-

NORTHWICK Park Rospital in Harrow, Middlesex has been using a system which is the result of a joint project between medical and computer staff in the DHSS and Perkin-Elmer.

A real time system based or P-E7/32s enables laboratories and other departments to enter the results of analytical and clinical activities so that information on patients and administrative data is constantly available

The system deals with online inquiries concerning admissions and bed status as well as dealing with medical archives. Other facilities include an automatic alarm for patient results outside accepted limits.

Northwick Park is a large district hospital with a national

MAS-M Complete Application Systems

for the PDP 11

MAS-M (Modular Application Systems for Minicomputers) is the latest addition to the MAS-80 family of application systems which is proven, practical, easy to implement and costs a fraction of in-house code.

MAS-M has been designed by Hoskyns, one of the leading software companies in the U.K., and is built upon the expenence gained in implementing over 1000 elements of MAS world-wide. It also incorporates years of experience in designing and installing auxiliarities exercise for mulconsulates.

Totally practical MAS-M has been designed by application specialists – accountants, angineers and production managers. Implementation is fast, it is easy to use und totally practical. Documentation is second to none

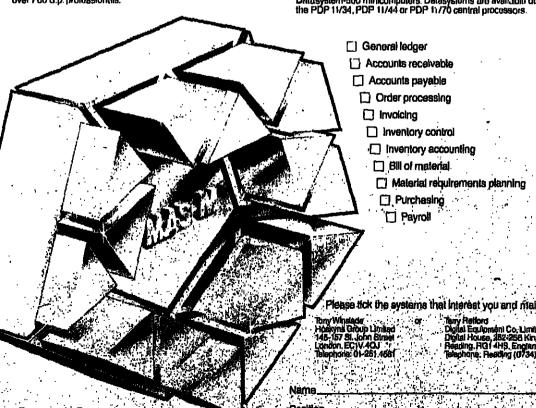
Support MAS-M is supported world-wide In the U.K. alone, Hoskyns employs

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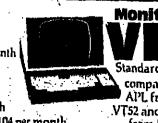


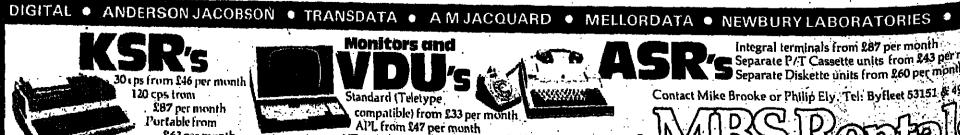


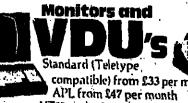
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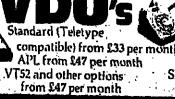


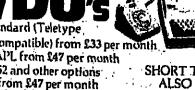












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Flexitime shifts

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This question is put by an operator who works at a site where a three-shift pattern is amployed — 8.30 to 4.30, 4.16 to midnight, and 11.45 till 9.15, Well, I don't know of any sites where flexitime is used vithin the shift pottern. As I see it, euch a system might lead to complications, particularly in

elation to the handover. The handover is important. I s the time when shift teame meet and relate informatio ing workflow and the

state of the system. It might be an idea to employ flexitinto, but ensure that, say, three operators from the two hift teams concerned are or site at handover time.

I would be interested to hen from operators who work flexitime in any form.

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registration forms are available from

Breaking down jargon barrier helps us to get on with users'

Richardson he rather took me by

In a conversation perhaps more aptly described as a verbal shoot-out, operations supervisor Richardson was first on the

In essence, he said, "So you're the one who writes the Op Spot. are you? Well, I don't agree with most of the things you say, and I don't think you represent the views of the majority of opera-

My actual reply cludes me, although I'm sure that it wouldn't grace the pages of a publication such as this. I did, nowever, agree that he is entitled to his opinion, and emphasised that operations staff have only to pick up the telephone or put pen to paper in order to air

COMPUTERMARKET'8O

NORTH WEST

New Century Hall, Corporation Street, Manchester

That little confrontation took place at the end of the first day of a conference on the future of operations staged in London by Infotech Operations. Anyway,

On reflection I had to admire the character. It's always refreshing to meet people who are willing to speak their minds. even - no, particularly - when it is to contest something one

has said or, in my case, written. On the second day of the conference I made a point of inviting Barry to lunch. We discussed the conference and operations in general, and by the time coffee was served he had agreed to an interview on the

part he plays in the industry.

of an IBM 370/145 and 370/148.

The systems run under DOS/ VS and support some 90 users online via 1BM's Customer Information Control System,

It's the in-house bureau to the Howden insurance and underwriting group, and quite a busy installation, a fact well illustrated by the three or four telephone calls Barry received in as many minutes as we sat in the

open-plan office. Sceking some peace and quiet, room, where he told me about the site and the part he plays

"One machine is dedicated to production work, while the So, the other week, I went to other is used for development Holden Data Services in Croy- and providing back-up should their views through this column. don, where Barry supervises the production system run into

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systems on show - in the

from 8.30 in the morning till 6.30 in the evening. After that we run our batch work."

With online systems such as CICS, machine problems are at once evident to the user — a sick system means that he is unable o communicate with it through

This tends to put extra pressure on the operations department, as its main aim must be to provide the best possible service to the user. A loss of service must be put right with speed and

At Holden Data Services the configuration is such that all devices may be switched between the two systems. In the event of problems on the production system, the error recovery procedure goes something like this: Stop develop-ment work, switch all lines and peripherals across to the backup system and restart produc-

Said Richardson, "Production work must take priority, so it's ital to have good back-up facilities — you know, two control units instead of one, two GPO lines instead of one; that sort of thing.'

Problems can also occur at the online systems and over 50 user's end, on the line or ter- applications, and some operaminal. Where local users are tors just don't seem up to it. concerned, one of the operators will go along to see if he can help

The online system has helped o make him acutely aware of the needs and problems of users, So much so that he is only too willing to have his staff take them around the computer room and explain something of the workings of the machines.

"We are providing a service and so it's very important that we build a good relationship take them into the computer room and explain things at a basic sort of level; this is a tape unit, a disc drive, CPU, VDU and

"This is important as it helps break down the jargon barrier. When we talk to our users about a disc drive, for example, it means a physical device to them. it's not just a plece of jargon intended to baffle them. They know that and it helps us get on with them.

In addition to users, Richardson feels that it is extremely important for the operators to work at building good relationships with software and hard-

The software side is no trouble as the technical support section lies within the operations department. cause I just relate to the techni-

cal support manager. He used to be my operations supervisor and I like to think that we get on Richardson advocates

meeting the IBM engineers "on a give-and-take hasis", but instructs his shift leaders to be firm where necessary, "Again I like to think that we have a good working relationship with our account customer engineer. You've got to work at it, but it's well worth the trouble.

"You hear all sorts of stories about engineers always being at 🖹 the sites which have the best rest rooms. Well, I just try talking to them and that gets them here when we need them."

Much of his time is taken up. dealing with the problems, needs and applications of his operations in tenm. "We're not perfect by any means, but we're always looking."

It is with that purpose in mind that staff meetings are held on a regular basis. They enable the operators to put forward their views and ideas on the running of the installation. "We held them last year but

had to stop because of pressure of work and staff being on "We tried having them every

six weeks but found that it didn't data files and remote I/O defit in with our three-shif pattern. Once every five weeks With its latest network softseems to work quite well. ware products DEC moves We always take minutes closer to that goal. Known as which are typed up and used for DECnet Phase III, the software

future reference. Like many other sites in the industry, Howden Data Services has its difficulties in attracting and retaining staff of the right

"One of my main concerns is recruiting and keeping good operators. It's not just us. though. The whole industry is faced by this problem."

reasons during the four and a half years Richardson has been at the installation. "People go for different reasons. We've got quite a demanding set-up. (w)

You hear all sorts of stories about engineers always being at the sites which have the best rest rooms. Well, I just try talking to them and that gets them here when we need them.

For that reason the streecruits at the junior level and puts the staff through its oan training scheme "Three years ago we looked."

the possibility of taking of trainees and we've had varyite degrees of success. You can't just take people in off the street and make operators out of ther "So we now take on a batch trainees every year. Out of the il ermanent operators we have a!

the moment, all bar one were recruited as trainces."

New staff follow a "clearly defined training plan during their initial six months at the

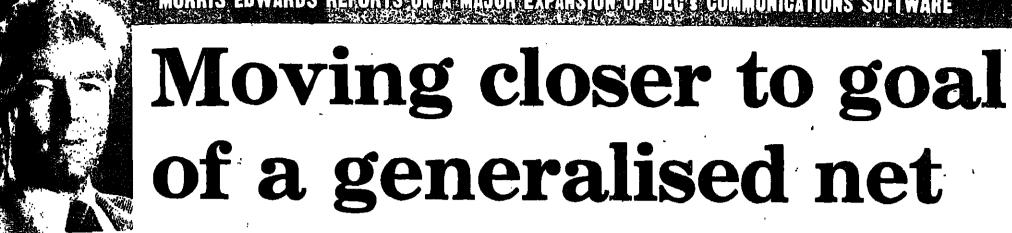
"During the first three weeks they work from nine till five to get used to the people and the installation. equipment.

'After that they spend and they are

weeks on shift to see if able to put up with the demand of shift work. Some people its can't do shift work and ners ubsolutely nothing you can do!! help them."
They then do a week's form

training — they are sent along to Inforech Operations or follow. basic operating course on vide combination of courses run Inforech Operations and all own in house video library.
These include basic operate training, DOS and POWER LL

and IBM 370 orientation. "At the moment we're discussing with the senior operators sing with the senior operation how training plant for the senior that the senior operation of trainers they stend hore advanced courses in DOS/VS and POWER as well in the creating to teleprotesses and staff supervision. MORRIS EDWARDS REPORTS ON A MAJOR EXPANSION OF DEC'S COMMUNICATIONS SOFTWARE



WHEN Digital Equipment Corp

announced its digital network

architecture in 1975, its stated

goal was ultimately to permit

generalised interconnection of different host computers in

point-to-point, multipoint or

switched networks so that all

users could share programs,

adds communications support

for multipoint lines and dynamic

daptive routing of messages

In addition, the software pro-

vides terminal access to remote

systems, and enhanced network

management features that can

tributed throughout the net-

groundwork for interconnecting

IBM and other suppliers by in-

Systems Network Architecture

supporting an SNA network.

nost or on a multipoint line with

SDLC line protocol and supports

up to four synchronous lines at

Three levels of access to SNA

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witching networks.

through a multi-node network.

protocols are available, ranging rom interaction with applications in a CICS or IMS environment to SNA session initiation. termination and data flow control. In addition, the emulator offers network management features to aid in fault isolation and line evaluation.

The RSX-11M/SNA protocol emulator can be used as a memory-resident package, or in conjunction with a KMC-11A microprocessor equipped communications interface for improved line efficiency. Delivery is scheduled to begin in

As for its support of the X25 protocol, DEC sees this as another important communications gateway between its systems and other computers in mixed-vendor networks.

be centralised or fully dis-Andy Knowles, vice president, technical products, reports that work. Further, DEC laid the the digital network architecture has been designed to accommois systems with computers from date an X25 interface," and that troducing an emulator for IBM's DEC will provide details of specific X25 implementations as and making a commitment to the products become available support the X25 international during the next two years. protocol standard for packet-DEC's Phase III product an-

nouncement comes almost five DEC's SNA protocol emulator years after the unveiling of software allows its PDP-11 com-Digital Network Architecture. DNA is a system of layered proputers running under the RSXtocols that establish links and to emulate an IBM 3790 cluster govern data transmission becontroller for interactive comtween computer systems. munications with an IBM host DECnet products embody the DNA architecture and facilitate With the emulator, the PDPconstruction of distributed pro-Il system can function either on cessing networks with DEC a point-to-point line to the IBM computers.

The first DECnet software products provided for task-to-The SNA protocol emulator task data transfer between real can maintain up to 61 concurtime systems of the PDP-II rent, interactive logical connecfamily over point-to-point links. In February, 1978 DEC antions with one or more programs in the SNA host. It uses IBM's

nounced the second phase of products, which extended the network capability across all major real time, time sharing and multifunction operating systems of the PDP-11, Vax. DECsystem-10 and DECsystem-20 computer families. DECnet Phase II also added the facility to copy and transfer data files from remote systems on

user command. Further, real time PDP-11 and Vax systems could now engage in remote resource access Which meant that users at one network node could open, read write and close data files. residing in mass storage at an-

With its Phase III products, DEC has now concentrated on functionality to include multipoint networks and adaptive path routeing. Phase III also introduces the concept of "network command terminals" which give users at one node direct access to any other DECnet node using the same operating system.

Prior to Phase III, DECnet only supported point-to-point ications between pairs of nodes that were directly physically connected;

Now, with the multipoint capability, a host, or master system, can communicate with up to six remote, or slave systems over a single line....

The host controls communications, polling each slave system in turn. Slaves can communicate, with seach other brough the host, and multipoint configurations can exist as sub-groups within larger networks.

systems to participate in message routeing, file transfer and resource access with other

Even greater flexibility is afforded by the adaptive path routeing capability, which allows a DECnet network node to send messages to another through up to five intermediate

Each node maintains a routeing table for the entire network. When more than one path exists between the source and destination nodes, the network automatically selects the "least-cost" path according to line values assigned by the network manager. Initially, the routeing tables are generated automatically when the software comes online. The values for each line are primarily determined by its bandwidth or

data rate capability. Routeing tables are updated whenever changes in line or system status occur.

Besides optimising traffic flow, the DECnet Phase III software provides network managers with the means for evaluating overall network efficiency and initiating diagnostic tests to isolate network

These management functions can either be centralised or fully networks may rise as much as distributed across all nodes. "New DECnet software will They permit monitoring of com-

at all points in the network.

systems anywhere in the net-

work that use the same

According to Knowles, there are over 500 DECnet networks

in operation, supporting over

2.000 nodes. In the future, he

operating system.

munications loads, error rates. make large networks of 20 or line conditions and node status more nodes easy to manage and more economical, as routeing Another capability of DECnet and multipoint capabilities Phase III, the network command lower communications expense," Knowles said. terminal software, provides "Forthcoming DECnet users with direct access to programs and devices on remote

releases and other future product announcements will point toward distributed data processing as a major marketing thrus: of this decade, bringing computing and its benefits into more ives with greater success and

have Hamilton installed more

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in Commons Asser WEC and all orthon elicitations

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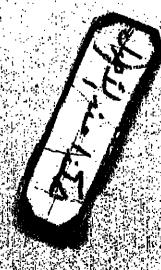
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THE ALPHA MICRO COMPUTER



MICRO NEWS

Speeding up production at IBM

under a lot of pressure to produce a wafer serial numbers. great variety of circuits, and quickly. • An automated process control syswith fast turn-around time, as a real priority. The IBM response has been A software-controlled wafer the QTAT (Quick Turn Around Time) production line, which was described

QTAT incorporates:

wafer handling, with wafer storage which sends production data on in- Centralised distribution of ultra-

routeing system which guides through

Computer terminals in a manufacthe manufacturing sequences.

 Automated control of process provided by a sector transport system and strategically placed buffer sta
dividual wafer to downstream tools on the QTAT line. This feature enables used in wafer production processes.

as well as batch processing of multiple

turing control centre and on the QTAT manufacturing line, for monitoring parameters such as temperature, pressure, deposition rates, and volongescure, deposition rates, and volongescure, deposition rates, and volongescure, deposition rates, and volongescure, and vo Automated wafer handling and storage systems, including air track
 Feed-forward process control.

The water processing operations and logistics, and for providing access to all levels of computer process controls.

Chinese character generator.

tems Division holds the end

product of OTAT. It is an 82mm silicon wafer, ready to be diced into



mation registation in Canada has gone back to square one following the Liberal Party's victory in the General Election. The Conservative Bill (CW. November 8, 1979), which had started committee stade with the constant of t eached committee stage when

reinstated Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau has, after some delay, announced that he will intro-

On the thorny question of whether there should be judicial

Commons online soon

THE choice of a computer to provide MPs with online indexes o research material is expected to be made soon. This, at long last, will bring to fruition plans for computerising the House of Commons library which stretch

Planned for inclusion on the vstem initially are the contents of existing strip indexes in the Commons library covering Parliamentary questions, European matters, and scientific information. These strip indexes have only limited cross-indexing and ely very much on the skill and mowiedge of the library staff. They are also difficult to update.

With the computer, MPs and their staffs will be able to search using personal names and keywords, without having to go to the library to do it. Communications facilities will be essential anyway -- it has been decided there is no room for the computer in the Palace of Westminster, so it will have to be sited elsewhere.

The Central Computers and Telecommunications Agency will pay for the machine and run it. At the House of Commons end the project is being overseen by computer development officer Richard Morgan.

Evaluate a

Ready to deliver now.

mation legislation in Canada has lost altogether but the newly-documents by government, Trudeau said his initial Bill would not include this but he would listen to the arguments put forward.

Freedom of information campaigners are interested in what happens in Canada because this would be the first country with a Westminster-style Parliament to have such laws.

It is unlikely Trudeau will be in a hurry to bring in the legis-lation but he may do so by July.

Prime additions

months after their introduc

processor ranges, but unlike them

PRIME has introduced two 32bit minicomputers with prices as low as £38,000 for end users and less than £32,000 for systems builders. The end user machine, the 250, is a less powerful version of the existing Prime 550 while the model for systems builders, the 150, is based on the existing Prime 450.

Electronic typewriters launch IBM's two electronic typewriters, the Model 60 and Model 60, have been launched in the UK, 18 Error correction is by "lift-off"

tape, up to a whole line at once if

months after their introduction on to the US market (CW, June 15, 1978). Both are priced at £1,250, and the 50 has a single-line memory and proportional spacing, while the 60 has 736 characters of RAM Formats including different mar-gins and tab stops can be held in memory, and there are other fea-tures such as automatic centring storage without proportional and decimal point alignment.

desired, using the line buffer.

spacing.
Other companies such as Qyx Machines for the UK market will and Olivetti have similar machines at the bottom end of their word

Pictured here is the Model 60.



400-page history of telecomms

MUCH of the history of telecommunications is traced in a new book, Girdle Round the Earth'. It was commissioned by Cable and Wireless and the history centres on that company and its predecessors, Imperial and International Communications and the Eastern Telegraph Company, from the latter's foundation in 1851.

The book, by historian Hugh Barty-King, tells how the present company name was taken from the uniting of the two competing technologies after wireless had "deprived the cable companies of half their traffic at

Having recurrently attracted the opinion that it was about to waste away, overtaken by modern developments, the company has continued to flourish. and tripled its turnover between 1974 and 1978.

Its 1978 income accounted for two per cent of the UK's net invisible earnings.

Published by Heinemann at £8.50 the book includes over 150 illustra-tions in its 413 pages.

Japanese 256Ks may steal the lead

64K density were positively ting of sense circuits and about signed by NTT for use as a run-of-the-mill at this year's In- 4K of memory is included. ternational Solid State Circuits IBM contributed two papers the chip is organised in duplicate Conference in San Francisco to the RAM session on a bipolar halves for fault tolerance. which included announce- five-volt-only 64K RAM, and a ments of two 250K dynamic 16K static RAM in merged tran-RAM and a four-megabit ROM sistor logic Tal. Based on a

may lose the lead in microelecunder-investment.

NEC-Toshiba Information Sys- RAM accesses in 45 nanosetems and NTT's Musashino conds with an operating power Electrical Communication of 225 milliwatts and standby Laboratory. No novel manufac- power of 130 milliwatts. It can turing processes were used in NEC's chip except 1.5-micron photolithography. However, even with this fine geometry the chip measures 4.84 x 8.59 mm. It sumption figures to 225/130 is in a 16-pin dual-in-line pack-age with larger internal cavity. Two more 64K RAMs were age with larger internal cavity. for compatibility with existing described at the conference, the long-awaited Texas instruments cycle times are 160 and 350 TMS 4164, and a device from nanoseconds. Active/standby currents are 45 and 5 milliamps. It runs from a single five-volt

Alpha particles promise to be a major problem with devices as dense as this, and several protective steps have been taken. Memory cell capacitance is large five volts); maximum access enough for the soft error caused by one particle, critical areas of digit lines are as small as pos-sible and a special protective coat is applied to the chip sur-square chip with 4.67 mm sides), coat is applied to the chip sur-

Using one micron geometry of 200 milliwatts, and access by electron beam writing, the second 256K RAM from NTT- cycle time of 250 nanoseconds hooked more advanced. Based on Hitachi's device also requires a special molybdenum polyjust a single five-volt supply and silicon technology, the chip has a typical power dissipation measures 5.83 x 5.9 mm and has of 170 milliwatts at 300 nanoseaccess/cycle times of 100/200 conds cycletime. A special alpha nanoseconds with power dis- particle protection coat has been sipation of 230 milliwatts, applied to the chip surface, Standby power is 15 milliwatts.

bipolar analogue of a field effect Coming from Japan, they ad transistor cell, the 64K chip has ded weight to Texas Instru- an access time of 50 nanosements president Fred Bucy's conds, and cycle time of 100 opening remarks that the US nanoseconds.

Development of static RAMs tronics during the 1980s through remains behind dynamic circuits in density but offers better speed The 256K devices come from and power, IBM's 16K static

Ti's device runs from a single five-volt supply and was de signed with three goals in mind: chip area to be less than 35,000 mils? (square thousandths of an inch); maximum power con-sumption of 200 milliwatts (at

It exceeds all these require a worst-case power dissipation time of 100-150 nanoseconds at a

The largest memory described



Character generation from a four-megabit ROM. Two sets of character are generated and compared before the final display (top).

Looking at large Evaluate a interactive system DEC system - 10 or - 20.

Don't get caught up in an expensive multilayered software solution.

Barrie Nicholson reports from the

International Solid State Circuits conference



Ready to interact at once.

Interactive computing isn't something you can graft bn to a batch herdware or software tradition. It must be designed in. Or you idse time and money.

Waiting for delivery or Wrestling with complex Mayered software that could have you and your

trogrammers in a wrangling tangle. So make sure the large systems of Digital Equipment, No 1 in interactive computing, are on your shortlist.

The DEC systems -10 and -20 are thoroughbred descendants of the original interactive computer which the developed and introduced in 1960. Rained Simplified Strengthened. Opened up wider and wider in compatibility and flexibility. Currently

Cporting 50 different languages. 10PS, an efficient shared operating system that meracts productively from the moment you switch on.

These are computers designed for the user. Any user adents scientists, engineers, clerks. As well as for world's top computer professionals.

Duck to install and get up. No compatibility problems detworking or terminal choice. Supporting many Manus even in low-priced configurations. Easy to when demand builds up.

worldwide Available now in a wide choice of performance ranges. Made by the No 1 in interactive computing. Put us on your shortlist. Otherwise, you haven't mado a true ovaluation.

Already at work in

hundreds of applications.

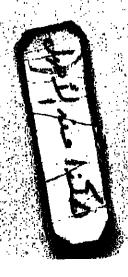
Better still, call us. You won't get any promises, spoken or written. Instead you'll receive an invitation to an immediate, comprehensive domo. No surprises – except the good ones.

Like: easy-to-use software. The hard and fast delivery date we can give you. The price. And how soon a DECsystem can be amortising your investment! Ask any user.

<u>.</u>	Digital, I'd like a clear picture of how soon and how well a DECsystem could be working for me. My application is:]
	Name:	ļ
•	Tel.: Send to: Terry Clarke Digital Equipment Co. Umited	
	Digital House, Kings Road, Reading RG1 4HS	ļ

digital

No.1 in interactive computing





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Newcomers at the

exhibition

PEOPLE and EVENTS



NCR sponsors concert

RICCARDO MUTI, music director and principal conductor of the pany. The concert took place at Philhermonis Orchostra is soon here with William Anderson (left) chairman and chiof executive of NGR and Rex Floot, chairman and managing director of NGR (UK)

Radio 4. It consisted of Vivald's The Sensons with Carl Pini as the violin soloist, and Beethoven's during rehearsals for a concort Pastoral Symphony.

pany. The concert took place at London's Royal Fastival Hall and was also broadcast live on BBC.

Honorary treasurer appointed at BCS

CONTROLLER of computer and management services at the London Electricity Board, Richard Paine, has been elected honorary treasurer of the British Computer Society, to succeed Doug Eyelons who resigned on his appointment as director-general of the CSA.

Paine has been involved with computers since 1955 when he

society from 1961-63 and was a member and secretary of the BCS East Anglian branch.

Ray Simpson has been appointed a director of Aughton Automation. He remains as director of Aughton Instrucompany's operations in Peter-

Helen Gibbons has been appointed assistant secretary of was a programmer and analyst, the Computer Retailers and has been in management Association. The association since 1960. He has also been an was formed several months ago active member of the BCS, and membership is open to having served three spells on—companies in the computer field which have a significant interest Council.

He was treasurer of the in supplying microcomputers to

David Gordon, formerly general manager of Datapro's Aldershot office and a former manager of BOC Datasolve's Aldershot, Sunbury and Guildford data preparation operaments and is now managing the tions, has now joined Systemsolve as territory manager for the West of England.

Jeremy Collins, group systems manager with Foster Brothers (Group Services) has been appointed assistant manage-Janet Oberg Jefferys has

customer services manager for Dicoli Electronics, For the last

two years he has handled all

communications hardware for

appointed external affairs

manager for ICL Dataskil. For

the last two years he has been a

member of ICL's senior

executive programme based at Hedsor Park in Berkshire.

Andre Van't Hoff has become

financial and administrative

director of Lexitype Holdings.

He joined the company in 1978.

Chris Stahl has been

United Computing Systems.

joined John Hoskyns as a senior consultant on database technology in the new consultancy division. She was formerly a database consultant with Honeywell Information Sys-



SNA and its alternatives, and

AGM. BCS Data Communication group institute of Education, Beford Way, London. 10.30. MARCH 4

The impact of automation, BCS, IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2, Tel: 01-240 1871 ext 261. ADA - the US Department of Defence real time language, BCS North Staffs group, Ambassador

Motel, Newcastle under Lyme. 20.00.
Online information users in Scotland. BCS Information Retrieval group to inaugurate a Scottish group. Contact L. Corbett, Univer-sity of Stirling, Stirling.

MARCH 5 Query languages. BCS Datubase users. University College, London. MARCH 6

Fault tolerance, Prof M. Bruer, BCS, IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2, Tel: 01-240 1871 ext 261.

The electronic office — Girl Friday or the Microprocessor — Future trends. IEETE. Imperial Hotel,

Discussion meeting on the Finniston Report, IEETE, Thompson Arms Hotel, Sackville Street, Manchester, 19.15.

Data protection legislation and the likely effect on you, IDPM Essex branch. County Hotel, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, 20,00.

Pet — the microcomputer for business, industry, education and the home. IEETE. The Sussex County Cricket Club, Hove. 19.30, Copol and Micros. BCS Co

specialists 'group. 13 Mansfield Street, London. 14.15.
The future of MT in Europe, Prof-Y. Wilks. BCS Natural Language Translation Specialist group. King's College. London. 18.00.
Getting the best out of your system.

tem — introduction to capacity management. IDPM Central London branch. Pearl and Dean Studios, Brondwick Street, London W1. 18.00.

MARCH 18 The complexity of problems and the Human Window, British Chapter of the ACM, BCS HQ, 13 Menafield Street, London WC1, 18.30, Tel; 01-980 4811 ext 826.

MARCH ID

MARCH 19-20



A PART-TIME computer story course brought more than see

academic satisfaction les tion that would identify with product groupings.
In this case visitor interests William Craig. Craig, who took the course were identified from the expecthe North East London Poh tation that the 1980s would see technic, gained not only i half the working population of the industrial nations engaged Higher National Certificate by also the ICL Prize which

Department of Systems r: Computing who has made the most significant contribution the final year of the course. Craig received a certifle and the £40 prize at a ceresz

awarded each year to the student from the Polytechair

at the Polytechnic's But The awards were present David Firnberg, many, director of Urwick-Nexa former director of the Natz

Computing Centre. David Wray has become tions department, part of application software dive Arbat UK. He was prefi≾ manager of program ses

As a result of its experience of Graham Lockie has be: telecommunications software moted within Centronicia contracts, including work on Computer (UK) to B System X, Hugh Pushman Associates of Poole, Dorset, deexecutive. He joined the pany last year in sales su; cided that one better method for Formerly a schoolleacher, D. which management was ready was a flexible store and forward King has become a sales so message switch, and IMEC saw the launch of its ABCS



executive.

MY SON'S SCHOOL HA JUST BOUGHT A MIC ROPROCESSES



HE WANTS TO ME

A-LEVEL IN STARM

MATHEMATICS ..

雪

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Featuring Architecture for the new - public data networks April 8-9, 1980

tion to other ABCS switches in a manufacturer. Tran's M3200

with four ports each can also be were on the Tran stand: the connected, as can up to four M3201-2 digital switch and the

M3212 statistical multiplexer. The Tran product is also based on a Computer Automation Naked Mini Serles 4, but it

US info management

Terminals supported by the

system include the Micropad in-

number of recipients in the same

way as telex messages or text

from communicating word pro-

By using the Post Office's Midnight Line facility messages

can be stored and sent overnight

anywhere in the UK at a fixed cost of £220 a year for any

number of messages. The

messages can go either to a printer or can be held in the

mailbox in the switch nearest

Facsimile transceivers are

also supported and, by using the

Fax Comp, compression unit

available under licence from

Compression Labs in the US, up

to 30,000 pages can be stored and

then sent at less than a minute

per page to a machine in any of the three CCITT speed groups,

so long as it has a decompression

Ascil to facsimile conversion

is a possible later addition and

the company may also develop

an interface to support viewdata

Data rates up to 19,200 bps are

implemented and up to 3,000

messages of an average 500 cha-

Systems without peripherals

range from £15,000 to £75,000, while a switch with four telex

ports, two eight inch floppy disc

drives, three terminals and two

printers would cost £25,000. The

switches are based on proces-

sors from the Computer

Automation Naked Mini Series

Another networking system

was on display by Tran

Telecommunications, the

Swindon-based UK subsidiary

of the US digital network

networking system is now in-

stalled in the UK for W. H. Smith

and the main parts of the system

racters can be hundled in an

the recipient.

unit in front of it.

REACHING the office environ- PABX extension lines through

ment was the aim of exhibitors which any number of terminals

at last week's IMEC Information can be linked to the system four

comer to Europe, its organisers. put device for hand written

Clapp and Poliak, have run it in Messages. By using the group New York for the past five years under the name info and they ten messages can be sent to any

Management Exhibition and at a time.

Conference at Wembley.

Although the event is a new-

claim to be well placed to cater

for visitor needs on a more

appropriate basis than a trade association or other organisa-

in some form of information

processing. Management should

IMEC REPORT

BY DONALD

KENNETT

methods, said the organisers,

since management rather than

technology now determined the

future of such concepts as elec-tronic mail and distributed data

Automated Business Com-

munications System.
The switch has a maximum

capacity of 64 ports which can be configured in any combina-

tion of up to 40 directly con-

nected terminals, up to 16 telex

lines, up to 16 lines for connec-

network, or to data processing

systems or special equipment.

Up to four front end processors

show comes to Europe

switches data at up to 64 Kbps and can therefore handle digitised voice traffic. Tranclaims to have been the first manufacturer to integrate all types of traffic into one networking system and managing director Bob Mayo quotes the 1976 Mine Nora report to the French government as saying there was a danger that the integrated network market was becoming a Tran monopoly.

An M3200 network user is likely to start with a switch and two statistical multiplexers, each with 122 channels, costing a total of £150,000, according to marketing manager Glenn Russell. From then the system is designed for modular expansion. both for increased capacity and for additional functions such as support of X25, SDLC or BSC protocols and conversions betand test equipment like the

in host computers can not only operate without modification but can also gain some of the flexibility of a packet network by accessing alternative hosts.

was implemented in the network that allows asynchronous terminals to, link to ICL Comuse the ICL 7181 synchronous

volved with viewdata and teletext sinco its early days, has developed a multi-terminal

XPRT X25 protocol tester, line monitor and terminal simulator, A major part of the product philosophy is to make the network transparent to user connections across it so that a viewdata or digital facsimile link can operate as normal, and simple terminals linked to complex communications software

For W. H. Smith a function munications Controllers which

A forthcoming facility to be made available in the UK under licence from CTX Cambridge Telecommunications in the US, to sell, under the Tran part

viowdata editing system based on multiple Motorols M6800 microprocessors, and an industrial processors, and an industrial teletext system. A four-terminal viewdota system lies been ord-ered by the Birmingham Post and Mail, which runs the Viewtel

CTX developed the product about two years ago and was recently bought up by the telecommunications giant GTE and made part of its Telenet packet network subsidiary, which would obviously have a strong interest in helping IBM users to make use of X25 net-

In the UK the system is likely

TWO UK exhibition newcomers at IMEC were viewdata specialist Jasmin Electronics and the US database on the Post Office's Prestel viewdata service. The system will run up to 10 ter-

systems, Magnuson. Jasmin, which has been in-The industrial teletoxt system has reached the online trial stage at Hoathrow Airport after a three-year contract with the Brillsh Airports Authority.

Magnuson showed its M80 series machino. It claims the sys tem has twice the price-toperformance ratio of the IBM 4300 series and mid-range 360 and 370 machines.

allows terminals attached to an - number M3225, at £10,000 plus IBM 3270 cluster controller to-£500 a month licence for the access multiple host computers. software to run in the IBM 370X which are then addressable from front end processor. the keyboard, and allows them Viewdata was also to connect to an X25 packet switched network.

peripheral interest to Turnkey Software which launched the Lexiboss document retrieval system it developed with UKAEA (see page 5). Managing director Derk Sully said that right after the show the company would get to work on a module for supporting viewdata terminals and reformatting for display as viewdata pages the text held under the Databass database management part of the Lexiboss system.

See Plessey PDX at Communications 💇 DIGITAL PABX STAND No. 2E14

PLESSEY PDX The Business Telephone

NOW FULLY POST OFFICE APPROVED Plessey launched the lirst digital PABX busines The fact is that one day all exchanges will be telephone system in the United Kingdom less than like the Plessey PDX - with the capability of two years ago, heralding the start of Britain's all

electronic digital communications network future. Now, Plessey PDX has earned full Post Office Type Approval. This means that exchanges in service have proved the system's ability to match the stringent standards for performance, reliability and maintenance set by the Post Office. More than ninety Plessey PDXs are already installed, and are quickly paying for themselves by controlling ever-increasing telephone costs.

And we're not just talking about simple private exchanges, but of systems which allow you to take full advantage of advanced digital technology throughout your network, linking all your sites. Whatever your requirement, the Plessey PDX in one of its versions - from an exchange up to 800 lines. through satellite and tandem systems to our newly announced 2000 line exchange - will satisfy your needa.

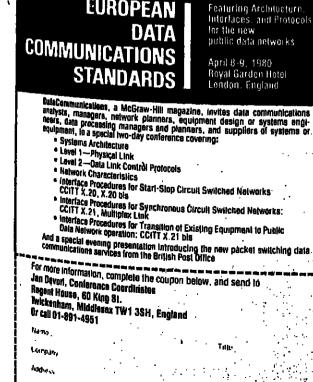
handling speech, data, word-processing and fac-simile in an integrated processor-controlled system. Right now, your business can benefit from these revolutionary developments with the Plessey PDX a system that's compact, economical, compatible with all other exchanges and already well-proven in service. Don't you owe it to your business future to find out more about Plessey PDX? Your communications link with the future.

Plessey Communication Systems

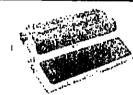
Write for full information to:
Dave Gamson, Major Systems Sales Manager,
Plessoy Communication Systems Limited, Beaston, Nottingham,
United Kingdom NG\$ 11.A,
Tejophone: Nottingham (0602) 254822 Telox: 37201

A practical solution of an LP pro-blem involving semi-continuous and dual integer variables with a non-linear objective. BOS mathematical programming study group forded programming study group. London School of Economics, London, 18.30.

IBM CUA Local Authorities group County Hall, Piccadilly Car-dens; Manchester, Tel: 01-181 1843







DECWRITER IV Desk Top Terminal £795 or £40 per month

New dosk-top microprocessor driven terminal operating at 300 band pinting at burst speeds up to 45 cps. Major features include himware selectable character. sizes, horizontal and vortical spacing, labelation and margins. The keyboard leefs like a typowriter and the 9×7 inches punt bond produces clear printing



HYTERM Word Processing Terminals From £1900 or £95 per month

New range of microprocessor controlled 'dalsy-whool' termionis for word processing applications. Features include proportional spacing, justification contring, bold printing, etc. plus all standard Hyterm tentures. Available for minute or plastic daisy whools giving widest range of type fonts.



SILENT 700 Portable Terminals From £1105 or £56 per month -

Range of microprocessor controlled lightweight terminals featuring a hold aroven thermal printing technique giving allent printing at 30 cps. Oplions include built-in acoustic couplors and a non-volatile magnetic bubble inomery capable of storing 20K to 80K characters. This feature allows full editing of data



H1410/1420 VDU's LowCost Video Terminals

£590 or £30 per month



M200 High-Speed Matrix Printer From £1995 or £100 per month

Desk top 132 column super-last 340 ops ble an aprinter Major features include: 11 position fermis length self an interfaces, easy feed carintings althernational characters, and the include and property to 16 inches wide.

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COMPANY NEWS

Imports grow faster than exports—Dol

A BIG increase in overseas trade in computer equipment in the total sales fell from £75 million third quarter of 1979 compared to £61 million over the 12 month with the same period a year before is shown in the latest set of Department of Industry statis- a dramatically revised import tics. At £215 million exports in figure for the second quarter of the third quarter of 1979 were up 1979 of £234 million compared 33% while the £279 million with the original figure of £176 Import figure represented a 42% million. increase over the third quarter The latter figure was consid-

- The DoI statistics tend to be it was published because of the supported by the figures strike at the Customs and Excise published by IBM UK which show that its 1979 export busi- Essex. ness at £433 million was 30% up on 1978 (CW, February 21), IBM Northampton office half of all UK computer equip-ment exports and imports, ICL exports a lot less than IBM but

imported. Total sales by the UK hardware manufacturers stood at

The new generation

the electronic

robotron Si6001

S6001

See us at the

Leipzig Spring Fair,

Export-Import Office

March 9 -- 15, 1980

Stand in Half 15;

of typewriters is here -

The DoI statistics also include

ered to be inaccurate at the time computer centre at Southend,

Enjoy the advantages of electronic

be impossible on a conventional

typewriter. Here are only the most

increase typing efficiency

- automatic error correction

changing the daisywheel

-feature for quiet operation; the

3 operating sequence memories.

many type-faces available simply by

change the ribbon, simply change the

ribbons come in cassette form ~ to

robotron S 6001 - the new way to type

automated operating procedures to.

important advantages:

daisywheel printer

~ 5 format memories

technology: which the robotron S 6001

It makes child's play of tasks which would

opened an office at Northampton to develop sales for its less of its home sales are Digital Equipment LSI-11 hardware in the North and Midlands. Heading the new operation will be lan Castle who was formerly 1276 million in the third quarter with the big DEC hardware of 1979, an increase of 17% over the same period in 1978. The

business

SOFTWARE packago sales pro-vided Westinghouse Manage-ment Systems SA with a tur-nover in Europe and the Middle East of 64.4 million in 1879, a 40% increase on the previous year. But the Wostinghouse Ejectric subsidiary believes that sales would have doubled without the uncertainty created by IBM's announcement of the 4300 series and the DOS/VSE

operating system.
Westinghouse schleved 1,050 new package installa-tions in 1979 bringing its total to 3,250 — which it claims is nore than any other software package marketing organisation in Europe. Sales are expected to increase by 30 to 40% in 1980.

ARROW Computer Systems has Dividend up again

FOLLOWING a 19% profit growth in the fourth quarter of 1970 (Company News, January 24) Burroughs has raised the quarterly dividend from 55 cents per share to 65 cents. This is the third increase in 12

Packs boost US \$4,000m giant

AMPEX, best known in the of its current financial year. computer industry as a show a turnover of \$334 million manufacturer of magnetic and net profits of \$27 million peripherals, is being taken over—compared with \$380 million and by The Signal Companies Inc. a \$18 million respectively for the

JS holding company.

Although Signal is relatively unknown in the UK, it chalked as a manufacturer of audio and up about \$4,000 million turnover last year and owns major concerns like the oil company UOP and heavy vehicle manufacturer

Signal and Ampex have agreed in principle on the takeover, the terms of which call for the exchange of each Amnex data and memory groun ordinary share for 79% of one achieved sales of \$140 million Signal share. This offer values compared with \$131 million for Ampex at \$495 million.

According to Signal the nona well established supplier of cyclical nature of Ampex busitape and disc drives and add-on ness was a major attraction while Ampex commented that the takeover was definitely not a of effort into promoting its rescue operation.

Ampex's accounts for the first Mini, Midi and Maxi (CW, nine months ended January 26

DARO Typewriters:

Old Station Road

Tel: 01 502 0115

robotron

Volkseigener

der Deutschen

DDR 108 Berlin

Friedrichstrasse 61

Robotron Export-Import

Aussenhandelsbotrieb

Demokratischen Republik

(UK) Ltd

Loughton

Essex

 Ampex has been found ity of patent licensing fraud y Judge William Ingram in the US Federal District Court in San Jose, California. The action was taken against Ampex by Memorex and involved a magnetic tape coating patent on which Memorex purchased a licence from Ampex in 1966.

whole of the previous year.

It first made a name for itself

video recording equipment and

is also a big manufacturer of

audio and video tape media. But

the third side of its business,

data and memory products, has

in the last financial year

ended April 1979, Ampex's

... The data and memory group is

memory and is now putting a lot

minicomputer systems, the

become the most important.

audio and video kit.

November 22, 1979).

Judge Ingram ordered Amnex to return the \$100,000 licence fee paid by Memorex for the patent. Ampex was also found guilty of misrepresentation to the US patent office on the patent. Judge Ingram also found that Ampex had violated two separate Memorex patents on disc drive arm assemblies and head positioning mechanisms.

COMMENT

FIGURES announced by the Equip ment Leasing Association has week suggest that business in booming for ELA members in a computers and office equipment sector. Assats of this son owned by ELA members as a sector. by ELA members at the end of (1) stood at £933 million company with £660 million a year before.

But it would be unwise to assume from these figures that a computer leasing business creat is a bed of roses or that it has

One essential point that metin he made is that most ELA minin that handle computers concentre on writing low risk finance bear where the lessee has to pay baths
the lessor the total cost of the machino plus interest and expens over the lease period.

Only a handful of ELA methy: specialise in the much more that business of writing operating leases where the lease takes & machine for a much shorter puts and only pays back part of times to the lessor. Operating lasts medium to large IBM maining type of computer hardwink remarket and because the saw?
of money involved make nor keting worthwhile.

But IBM's announcement 4300 series a year ago not while a serious effect on the remaining value of leased IBM 370 made Lloyd's dispetor) it also indets very attractive two-year lends hard to beat.

Even finance lessors now lo serious threat from a new acc.) ting standard that will requiressees to show leased such result in capital allowances Mi transferred to lessess if there it

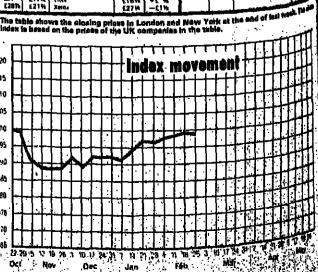
GTE hit by Iran troubles

US telecommunications giant General Telephone and Electric showed an increase in profits of 3.8% to \$645 million in 1979 or turnover up by 14% to \$9,960 million.

The company suffered the loss of a communications contract Iran, but communications products sales showed the largest gree - an increase in turnover of 17%. Telephone operations turns. grew by 13% and consumer electronics by 8%.

CW SHARES TABLE

Penco	Landou Stock E-change	Pø	UEO	-	•	Nov York Stock Circle()	800 F
1880	Бируа	Price	Спыци	106		Stock	سا
1880 H-gh Lo- 318 230 43 38 437 C321 78 70 1120 1120 98 90 430 540 130 173 180 146 500 407 376 336 C31 C38 C31 C38 C31 C37 C31 C38 C31	Applied Comp Tech Storm Buyers Kent Burnoughs Chorbs Chubb Core Oa La Rua Esti Esti Ferranti GEC Hongywall	Price 316 38 63314 72 112 83 810 123 188 500 373 C434 138 7224 138 129 208 C111 E181 450	-20	106 14mh 18% 276 39 84 23% 60% 18% 69% 1745 70% 0146 78% 48 19% 48 19% 18%	10	AM Interruptions Ampara Ampara Ampara Ampara Automate Dass Price Contigues Edisonal Continued Ords Digital Equipment Harris Harris Harris Harris Harris Harris Monayardi National National Rockwell lates Schluripterigue Sperry Rard Sporry Rard Spor	は 200mm 100mm 10
228 190 84 72 627 621 6624 640 6264 621 621 612 6285 621	Schlumburger Sperry Rand	217 78 C2455 C6245 E24	+ 8 - 2 - 0 % + 03 % - 0 %	47 B 65%	87 M 84 M 40 - 54 59 %	Februsia Feusa Instrumenta I RW Wyty Kentra	127-0



PRODUCT NOTES

'1,500 times faster' array processor

EURO Electronic Instruments has announced the MAP 6400 ables MAP 6400 to carry out

MAP 6400's arithmetic units

throughout the three systems. which is said to be the only array arithmetic procedures up to three-dimensional image proprocessor using the large 1,500 times faster than a minicomputer working alone. cessing features such as translation, rotation, zoom, perspective and hidden line resolution which says Euro.

included in the software are

can modify the database before

The control and flexible

input/output capabilities of the

design are said to allow direct

memory output to the appro-

priate peripheral at rates of up to

Many of the components of

the current hardware were used in the development of MAP 6400.

identical to those in MAP 200

London, NW1 1YE. Tel: 01-267 2748.

it is transferred to a display.

36 megabytes per second.

One of the objectives when work in parallel, but this processor also works asynchronously. The parallel and the software library for the MAP asynchronous operation, in ad- 200 and MAP 300 systems. Indition to its medium scale inte- structions sets are compatible

In-circuit emulator for Intel MCS-48 family

GEC SEMICONDUCTORS has Intellec microcomputer deveannounced the ICE-49 module, which provides in-circuit emulation (ICE) for all systems using any of the Intel MCS-48 family of microcomputers, including the 8049, 8048, 8748, 8039, 8035 and 8021.

The ICE technique is said to overcome problems encountered when testing electronic systems and the test equipment alters the operating characteristics of the system and distorts

The problem is solved with an ICE by monitoring in real time what is happening within the system and storing this information for later analysis. The ICE-49 comprises two circuit boards which reside within the

and MAP 300. lopment system.

Using ICE-49, the designer can execute prototype software either continuously or in a single step mode. Break points which allow the user to stop emulation are available on the detection of a wide variety of conditions within the system. The trace capability allows a detailed history of the program execution prior to the break to be examined

The designer can use ICE-49 to examine and alter MCS-48 registers, memory and flag values and examine pin and port values in a real time environ-

GEC Semiconductors Ltd (CW), East Lane, Wembley, HA9

13.5 litres of air/second from slimline fan

A SLIMLINE centrifugal fan from ETRI, the Model 583-CBA-200, uses sleeve bearings to give a low noise level when running. Designed for cooling electronic equipment, business machines and other applications, the fan has a thickness of 388mm and can deliver 13.5 litres of air per second under normal 50Hz operation in free air conditions and 6 litres per second at a pressure of 11.5mm static water

Bauge.
The fan uses an integral

tions per minute at 50Hz and 2,500 revolutions per minute at 60Hz. Maximum static pressure is 16mm of water of 60Hz and noise level is 49.5 dBA.

The main body of the fan is a zinc-based alloy and the impellor is made of thermoplastic. The sleeve bearings are lubricated Overall measurements of the

fan arc 127.6×126.2×38mm and mounting is by three fixing holes. Electrical connection can be by solder or with a plug. ETRI Ltd (CW), 3 Guildford

shaded-pole motor designed and manufactured by ETRI and has a nominal speed of 2,550 revolu-

Scientific calculators THREE advanced program-

mable pocket calculators with continous memory, including what is said to be the first scientific model with preprogrammed "solve" and "integrate" func-Hewlett-Packard.

The HP-34C is said to be the most powerful programmable scientific model in HP's low cost

It has 20 data registers which are automatically converted to program lines as needed; or up to 210 program lines with a programming capacity of up to four Loughborough-based noise con-

chances of error by permitting indefinite storage of frequently used programs and conversion

Hewlett-Packard Ltd (CW), tions, have been introduced by Hewlett-Packard.

King Street Lane, Winnersh, RGII 5AR, Tel: 0734 784774.

Acoustic cover

keystrokes per line or about 370 keystrokes per program for the typical program: and full program editing capability. It costs The HP-33C is a programmable scientific calculator with continuous memory and all the con

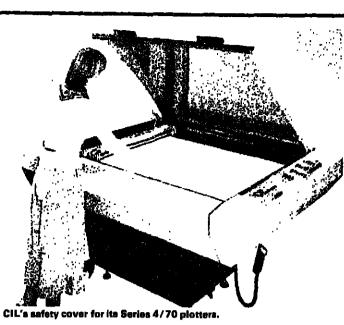
continuous memory and all the features of the HP-33E. It costs

The HP-30E. It costs

The HP-30E absorbent faced foams and the front perspection. The HP-38C is a continuous cover has been developed to give a minimum of distortion for the costs £95.50 including VAT.

To Mat Engineering Ltd (CW).

Continuous memory is said by Sullivan Way, Loughthorough, HP to save time and reduces the LEI1 OQS. Tel: 0509 217171



Safety

COMPUTER Instrumentation has introduced a safety cover for its Series 4 / 70 intelligent flat bed graphics plotters to protect the operator and to meet internationd safety standards.

17

The feature enables direct purchase of plotters by public authorities and the defence sector for computer aided design work and extends the plotters to a safe operation with nonspecialist workers.

Computer Instrumentation Ltd (CW), School Lane, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire, Tel: 04215 66321.

Universal PROM programmer from Elex

The technology and logic speeds of the arithmetic units, which ELEX announces its E-H 4A universal PROM copied with amendments. was widened to 64 bits, are programmer which is a single instrument without Ltd (CW), 27 Camden Road,

program editing and can be connected to the user's circuit for emulation. Master PROMs can be RG12 1DA. Tel: 0344 52929.

it has an in-built display to allow PROMs to be dentical to those in MAP 200 adaptors or plug-ins that provides programming ind MAP 300. adaptors or plug-ins that provides programming editing and emulation for all NMOS EPROMs allow PROM contents to be dumped and to allow PROM contents to be dumped and to allow including those still under development.

The E-H 4A has an internal RAM to permit data source.





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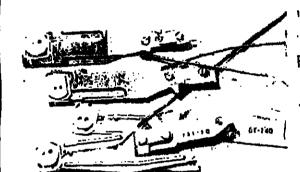
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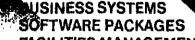
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BURROUGHS 880, 8800, 8730s Contact: ALISTAIR DAVISON OF BARBARA BEANLAND for details COMPUTERMARKET 80 PREVIEW

Computer Mountain

Response to the multi-venue

idea is said to be high and the organisers. Couchmead, have

had to set up a special exhibitor

Traditionally, three types of

visitor have attended the



The Digital Equipment PDT 150 system, available with CAP-CPP's MicroCobel packages from Hamilton Rentals. — It will be Hamilton's first appearance at a Computermarket exhibition.

WHERE AND WHI TO SEE

Birmingham: March 4 %1
Albany Hotel, \$mil.
brook, Queensway,
Manchester: March 11 611

New Century Hall, Co. 5 poration Street. Glusgow: March 18 to 20 Albany Hotel, Bother

London: March 25 to 27 West Centre Helel, La Road, SW6.

megabytes of storage is an able. The Black Box II support Cobol, Fortran and Basic."

OEM/systems

puters, the systems and terminal

distributor based near Brent-

wood, Essex. Using software de-

veloped in conjunction with an

unnamed UK university, the

Comma Writer is based on the

North Star Horizon microcom-

puter and has a twin floppy disc

drive and a high resolution VDU

and Diablo printer. By adding

standard software packages the

company says that the Comma

Writer can be extended beyond just word processing work to handle payroll, sales invoicing, stock control and other business

Priced at £6,950 the system

comes with a one-year hardware and software maintenance agreement and full operator

training.
Equinox Computer Systems

will exhibit a range of commer-

cial, scientific and educational microsystems which includes a

Making its first appearance a Computermarket exhibit: will be Hamilton Rentals with will demonstrate the Dig: Equipment PDT 150 mkm ning CAP-CPP's MicroCc -software packages. Among applications covered by it puckages are sales and not ledger and purchase app. Hamilton is to show a range

computer equipment for

Computer

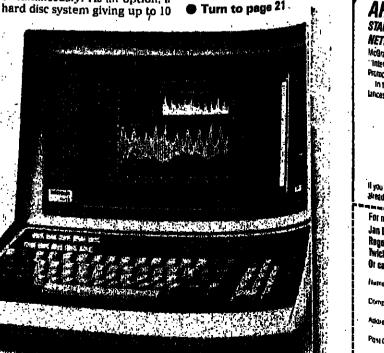
with Computermerket & i a competition to find h the Year, the proceed? which will go to the Birth Computer Booking Specialist Group for Disabled. Among the petition judges will be !" Kavanagh, editor of C:

manufacturers such as Ho

Hamilton will exhibit a Dis per minute Diablo printe For those looking for solution for their Commodore Pet. 4. Computers of Ealing will monstrate a range of slock

A Pet-based incom record accounting system also be launched at a page

Rostronics Is to exhibit Micromation Z-Plus bush system based on the Zilog ?



New models make debut at the exhibition

A new VDU will be introduced

t Computermarket by Pragma.

a screen which can be tilted from

Visual 200 can also emulate the

from

have been announced by Tekand is only six inches deep. tronix. These are the 4052 and 4054 Desktop Graphics Com-Varying line colours and thicknesses can be achieved via the puting Systems, and both offer eight programmable pens on the high data processing speeds and plotter, while an optional feaspecial flicker-free screens. An ture is a programmable paper internal magnetic tape drive holds up to 300K of data and feed for handling continuous program storage while the standard 32K of RAM can be stationery. Among the computer peripherals to be exhibited by Lynwood is the Beta VDU which

increased to 64K. The Tektronix 4052 comes has half-intensity, blinking and with an 11-inch screen while the underline and reverse video 4054 has a 19-inch screen.

An exclusive UK distribution agreement has been signed between Comma Computers and the manufacturers of the Prin-It is called the Visual 200 and has ceton 8500 M range of micro-10 degrees to 15 degrees. The based graphics terminals. The Princeton 8500 M range features Hazeltine 1500, the ADDS 520, high resolution intelligent graphics terminals which sell for the Lear Siegler ADM-3A and the DEC VT-52 terminals, It thout £15,000 and according to costs £754.40 unbuffered and Comma they will complement the Sigma range of graphics systems that it already handles. £823.40 buffered.

For £495 you will be able to Another exclusive distribubuy a terminal called the Model 7000 from Newbury torship agreement that Comma Laboratories. The terminal is has signed is for a new microbased plotter from Brown Boveri. Called the Servogor 281, Teletype compatible and has a 80 characters by 24 line green

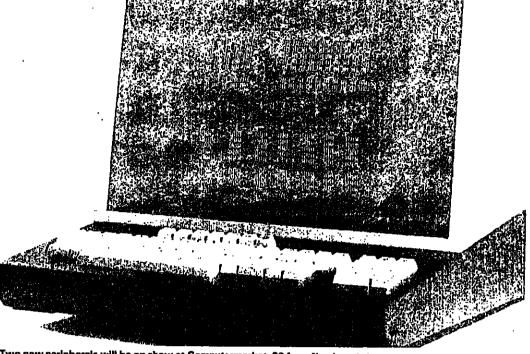
the Model 8300, will also be on the stand. This has a 2K buffer as standard and a print speed of 125 chps. Single end user prices start

> Adding to its 400 series of terminals, Harwoods Business Systems will exhibit two new models. One is the Teletaper, a Telex compatible VDU with 48K of memory and basic text editing facilities. The other is a VDU equivalent to the VT100 which has smooth scrolling and 132

print positions.
Highlight of the Anadex stand at Computermarket will be its new DP-9500 line printer which has up to 220 column print positions and costs just under £900 for the one off, end user price.

Among the range of equipment available for the DIY computer enthusiast is a longawaited dual minifloppy disc system from Nascom Microcomputers featuring doublesided, double-density disc

ROBIN WEBSTER REPORTS ON THE TRAVELLING SHOW



Two new peripherals will be on show at Computermarket 80 from Newbury Laboratories; the Model 7000 VDU and the Model 8300 matrix printer. Our picture shows the Model 7000 which is Teletype compatible and costs

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supply of business forms and d.p. furniture. in short, total solutions for today's business community, From-

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For further information, please contact David Longley at Harpenden 63161.



putor Weekly.

word processor with a price tag of about £6,000. A desk-top microsystem, the Packard, Digital Equipr. Mael 5100 is one of two launches Tektronix and Texas las

to be made by Computer An-ciliaries Ltd. The Mael 5100 is a 16-bit machine designed for From its office products business applications and it can Equipment WD80 - a 661 be supplied with compilers to two terminal system. This handle Commercial Fortran, with either two or four be Commercial Basic, Fortran, diskette drives and a 500 Cobol, RPG 2 and Pascal. Floppy disc storage is expandable up to 2.7 megabytes, and for a 64K machine the cost will be about £9,700. For an extra £1,300 a trol, word processing and

printer and a range of applica-tion packages are included. complete record account CAL will also show, for the packages. Prices start at fall first time, a range of software developed by CAP for use on the

Durango desk-top micro. Rair will exhibit its, Black Box II microsystem based on the Intel 8085A. It comes with up to 64K of RAM and features a multi-user operating system that can handle 16 terminals simultaneously. As an option, a

The new Tektronix 4052 Desktop Graphic Co

Tektronix developed processor that provides high speed the and graphics capabilities. It has 32K of memory as alanded up to 64K.



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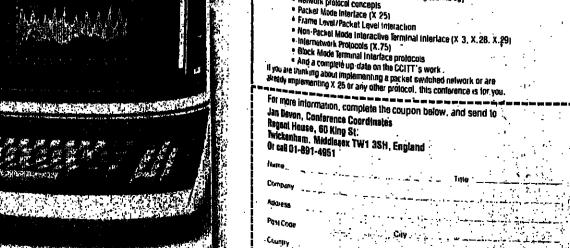
McGrav-Hill's American publication. DataCommunications. is bringing its highly successful international Standard x 25 interface Protocol for Packet Networks and Related Network Protocols." Conference to Brussels on April 14-15. 1980 at the Brussels Hilton Brussels in Neu Page 1991. In two days you will learn why interface protocols are needed to carry data over long dis-

ar, and with high efficiency, and you will receive, A complete overview of packet switching te Network protocol concep

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Reference times can be cut to: using a well-designed direct file. The term direct implies that, when a particular record is requlred, it is possible to retrieve it without scanning a large part of the file during the search. This means that the record key, which will be known from the mquiry, is related in some way to the record address.

The simplest way to arrange for this relationship is to store records in addresses that are direction linked to their keys, eg: ADDRESS = KEY

ADDRESS = KEY + CONSTANT

ADDRESS=(KEY+ _ CONSTANTA BLOCKING FACTOR

There are many variations of this type of equation, due to factors such as differing disc starting addresses, blocking of records or form of keys. They all rely on one essential prerequalite, which is that the keysequence is unbroken, or at least nearly so.

Because a simple relationship

BASIC FILE DESIGN

now impression of Basic File Dosign will be available in March and copies may then be ordered from the General Sales Manager, IPC Electrical and Electronic Press Ltd, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LU. Price £1.90 each

Addressing concepts for direct files

about a tenth of this figure by provides a unique address for the provision of comparison, the first is to spread the records each record or block of records, values, and a lengthy analysis of the user may wish to preserve it each input key. In principle it even if this means that some addresses are unoccupied. A file practice the technique is limited stored in this way is called self- by availability of storage space indexing. Even if the key or the need to take account of sequence was originally un-constant changes in key broken, gaps occur naturally sequence. Thus it is only useful lf when stock lines are discon- the file is relatively stable and tinued, customers go out of gaps in the key sequence are business or employees leave. few, that is, hundreds at the business or employees leave.

ship by leaving up to half the notential storage space unocdesigner will be guided by the quiry throughput. At some point it will not be possible to waste more storage space as the key sequence deteriorates, and a dif-

ferent solution has to be found. If the gaps are large but relatively few in number, a table can be provided that will subtract appropriate values from the keys, and allow all addresses to be used. In a simple case the keys might follow the sequence 0001→0103

0121 → 0244 0443 → 0480 and so on. If addresses were

available from disc sector 000870. and each sector could hold a single record, the address of a record would be determined as shown in Table I.

Such an allocation arrangement is very useful for cases in rally. However, it involves both

the address and key of a record cupied may be justified; the file directly and so provide a selfindexing file, both direct and availability of disc storage and sequential reference is possible the importance of muximum in- without any waste of time. However, some key sequences

Truly random allocation of records is often achieved by squaring the key, or a part of lt. square (usually the centre digits) as an address. The figure will usually have to be adjusted in some way, as it will be in the have too many gaps to be hand- form 2" or 10", while the required led in this way, or are unsuitable address range might be any size,

random. The second is to use

more effectively. The allocation

calculation is called an

algorithm. Many types of

algorithm have been inves-

tigated but we shall only look at

the two most useful techniques

this technique come very close

dom allocation

IF KEY ≤ 103, ADDRESS = KEY + 869 IF 121 ≤ KEY ≤ 244, ADDRESS = KEY + 852 IF 443 < KEY < 480, ADDRESS = KEY + 653

Table 1. Determining the address of a record in a disc sector.

because they contain alphabetic or special characters. In this case some other method of linking the key and address is

Keys may be very wide in range, and the objective is to fit them into a set of addresses that provides enough space for all the records, without very many empty positions (10% to 20% may be acceptable). The process which runs of keys occur natu- is shown in Diagram 1. Two approaches to this are possible;

Diagram 1. Fitting keys into a set of addresses without leaving too depending on the number of and subsequent records allorecords in the file. Kaimann' cated to this address will have to showed that the results of using

to those calculated on the It is virtually impossible to assumption of absolutely ranfind an algorithm that does not produce synonyms. Heising? Use of this technique will lead quotes the probability of finding to some addresses being allosuch an algorithm, in allocating cated more than one record. The 4.000 records to 5,000 addresses, as 1 in 1012noo. However, first of these can be stored in its sometimes the order in the keys home record. If addresses can (usually runs of records) allow only hold single records, second

be stored elsewhere. They are

the to reduce the number of the continues below the "range" percentage. Thy ision of the key by a page

number of an odd number (too close to 10" (eg. not 10") [100001]. and use of p. remainder as an address, a often give a very good dime. of this method is that runs keevs will produce remainder that do not lead to synonymia they differ by one from toother. However, if two separ. runs overlap, large number syttemyms can be caused I. will be discussed in detailing.

The technique also allower, number of addresses allocated be "fitted" easily to the number of records by a sultable choked divisor; division by N will p. luce remainders in the mp 0-(N-1), and the only furte adjustment needed is to all i constant if the available was on disc does not start at addre

These two techniques a widely used, and give go: results. However, synon cause wasted time, as their address calculated leads och the home address, and a lun search is needed to find then uired record. Thus the filet signer aims to reduce both number and the effect synonyms to a minimum I: ways in which this is done be discussed in future pare

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3. File Organisation and Al-sing, Werner Buchholz. 1817 tems Journal Vol 2. June 2

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the Cheshunt Pata Centre are excellent (it is our policy to promote from within).

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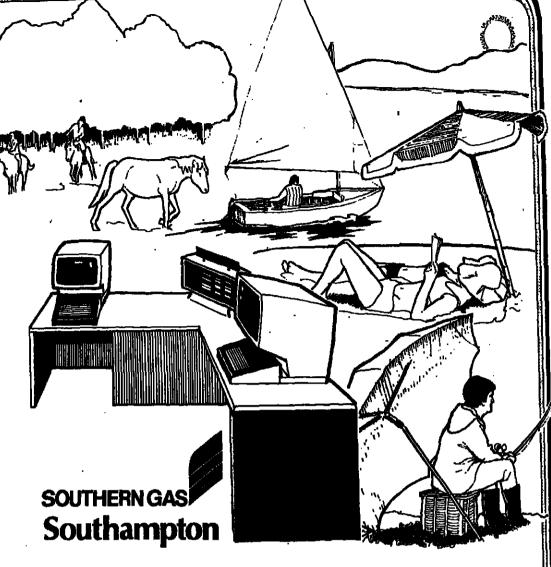
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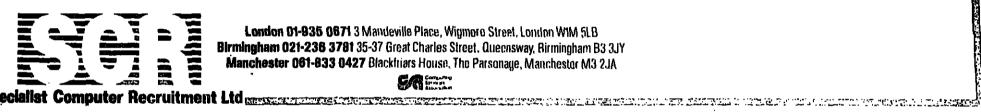
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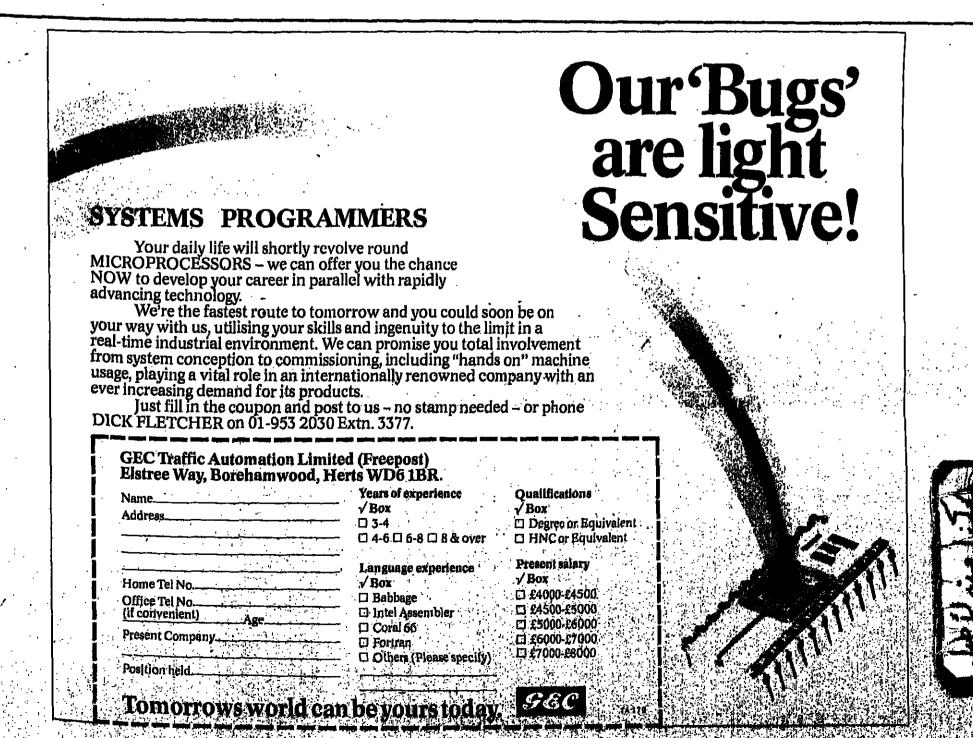
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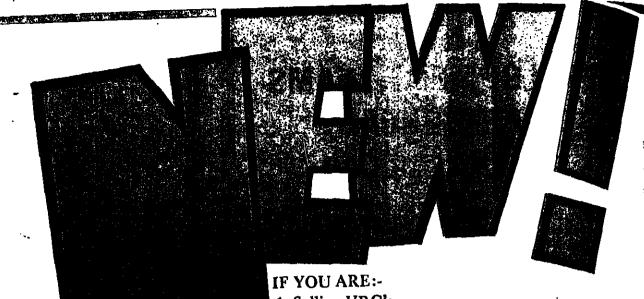
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Phase 2 of the development process is now in progress at Maidenhead and we are forming three new teams there to advance the network communications and point of sale

We require project managers, team leaders, senior analysts and programmers preferably with DEC RSX-11M or RT11 software, Zilog microprocessor, X25 or other packet switch data communications experience.

We offer the opportunity to participate at the outset in a stimulating project, with unrivalled career prospects, ideal working conditions, international travel opportunities and usual fringe benefits.

Telephone for further details 0628-71817 (evenings and weekends 049-14 3064) or write to:

Computer Communications Limited

Fleming House, King Street, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1DU

SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR PROGRAMMERS

CENTRAL LONDON

(up to £8750)

There are plenty of run-of-the-mill jobs about, some interesting jobs which are badly paid, and some highly-paid jobs which are nevertheless tedious.

This opportunity is SPECIAL because you will have the chance of learning sophisticated methods (including database and communications) on a large mainframe, using on-line program development techniques, and at the same time enjoy a good earnings package, with sound

We are recruiting for clients, a well-organised London installation, and all the work is on-site. We would like to hear from programmers with at least 1½ years' practical experience (for less senior positions), ideally including COBOL. For experienced programmers who have used other languages, retraining will be provided. Team leadership ability will be required for more senior candidates.

Please ring us in confidence for a talk, quoting ref 238CW or leave a message on our answering machine after hours and we will contact you.



JBA

Technical Author (Electronics)

Italy

 Λ small specialised manufacturing company have now completed the development of a highly complex air-borne system, incorporated advanced electronics and micro-processor based circuitry.

A very experienced Technical Author is required to fully document this system, encompassing operation, technical description, repair and maintenance. Qualifications in electronics are essential together with a background in modern systems design. Position open to freelance contractors for permanent

IMS Project Manager

Birmingham

Berkshire

Earnings c.£10.000

£6,500 - £10,000

An international engineering organisation is seeking a PROJECT MANAGER to formulate the standards and design methodology relating to the use of database technology fIMS) at their new data centre.

Applicants should be experienced computer professionals and have a thorough knowledge of IMS consolidated by practical experience.

A sound opportunity to influence the use of database technology throughout this highly respected organisation.

Software Programmers

A real chance to join a small dedicated group of mint-computer software development technicians in a computer manufacturing company. The team are involved in the design of data management software, compilers, and related packages, for an increasing range of business orientated machines that are recognised as being among the leading products in this sector of the market. Applicants must have at least two years experience of similar work using advanced techniques. A degree or post-graduate work on system software or compiler architecture would be an advantage.

The company offers an attractive employment package, pleasant working environment and the opportunity to assume responsibility for projects within Contact: Mike Creamer

Defence Operational Analysts

Central/S.W. London

neg.£6,000 - £9,000

Our client is a scientific systems company in a well established software group. Att impressive sales record has generated two vacancies for stall with operational analysis experience to work on projects assessing the performance of naval systems and equipment. Work is at Head Office in Central London and on site in South West London. A good degree in a numerate discipline is essential. Experience of Fortran or CORAL and of Operational Research in Defence would be an advantage. Salaries and benefits are consistent with a group which places real emphasis on encer development. Contact: Margaret Stevens

INSURANCE COMPANY Systems Analysts South of England

Salaries up to £7,100 + mortgage subsidy + non-contributory pension + free permanent health scheme + low interest loans + subsidised canteen and sports/social club + all relocation expenses + other benefits.

A very attractive prospect for career-minded Ånalysts, keen to progress in a growth-orientated modern company putting in database and TP systems, promising exciting design and development work well into the 1980's. We are keen to hear from Analysts who have a sound business background, a good knowledge of COBOL and experience of system design over two to three years, ideally in an accounting, financial or banking environment.

Contact: Mike Creamer

Development Programmer For First-Time Mini User.

Surrey

c. £7,000 + bonus

A well established commercial organisation wishes to recruit an Analyst/ Programmer to assist with the design and development of their first

Candidates should have at least three years experience of high level languages in the development of accounting/financial/stock applications. This is a unique opportunity to be the first member of the d.p. function. Contact: Jim Baker

Programmers

up to £7,000

A well established British company specialising in Industrial systems has: opportunities for Programmers to join the expanding development teams. Candidates, preferably graduates with at least twelve months programming. should have experience of minicomputers in technical, industrial or process control applications.

Large company benefits including relocation.

Contact: Jim Baker

Systems Programmer up to 27.000

Rugby A medium size engineering company has a vacancy for a TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMER to join a small team responsible for systems software and to assist in applications programming. ...

Applicants should have a good education with a minimum of 2 years IBM DOS/VS programming experience together with the ambition and ability to work with systems software.

An Ideal opportunity to develop a cureer in system software. Confact: Bev Stevens

> JAMES BAKER ASSOCIATES. International Personnel Consultants, 32 Savile Row, London WI. Tel: 01-439 9311.



COMPUTER WEEKLY, February 28, 1930.

CONSIDER 1980 - What can you foresee for yourself in 1980 and beyond?

- Continued maintenance of existing systems?
- A very restricted program of new systems development?
- Predictable and limited personal rewards?

CONSIDER MOUNCEY'S 1980 AND BEYOND (just to name a few)

- Devalopment of a complete, batch and real-time, banking system for an Egyptian Bank based on NCR 8585 using VRX, TRAN-PRO, TOTAL.
- Development of a large Order Processing / Distribution System for an overseas client based on ICL 2972, using VME/B, IDH, IDMS.
- Financial applications system development on PDP 11/70 under RSX11M and MACRO II.
- Development of a Personnel Records system on UNIVAC 1100 using DMS 1100.
- Development of Management Information Systems for a multi-national group to operate on IBM 370's using Structured Design and Development Techniques.

CONSIDER THE PROSPECTS

- Working as a Mouncey Team member on new systems development, frequently using advanced technology
- Challenges both technically and in terms of project responsibilities.
- The potential to work on Overseas projects for both short and longer periods (if that's what you want).

CONSIDER THE BENEFITS

- Above average starting salaries £6000 to £9500 per annum.
- Opportunities now for PROGRAMMERS, SENIOR PROGRAMMERS, ANALYST / PROGRAMMERS, SYSTEMS ANALYSTS.
- A good non-contributory pension and life assurance scheme.
- A choice from 20 new CARS under our car option scheme.
- BUPA for you and your family.
- SIX monthly salary and personal reviews.

Finally CONSIDER your position within the context of Mouncey and Partners, which is an established (1962), stable, profitable, well respected and professionally operated Computer Consultancy and Software House. What is most important, to you, is that we are a company that recognises and positively values our staff as our most important asset.

CONSIDER telephoning or sending a C.V. to me, ROD EVANS (DIRECTOR)



Mouncey and Partners Limited 13/14 Cornwall Terrace Regents Park Landon N.W.1

Telephone **01-486 7777**

TOOTING, LONDON SW17

Due to internal promotions, the South West Thamas Regional Health Authority require additional operations personnel to be based at the Regional Computer Centre, Springfield Hospital, London SW17. Computing, within the centre, is currently based on ICL 1904S hardware, running under George 3, which provides medical, financial and management information to the Region. A two-shift system is currently in operation and, where indicated, the

quoted salaries are inclusive of a shift allowance.

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Applicants must have a good working knowledge of ICL 1900 hardware and George 3 coupled with proven managerial experience in a sizeable installation. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of a 60-strong department comprising operations, data control and data preparation staff.

CHIEF OPERATOR

Reporting to the Operations Manager, the person appointed will be responsible for the ellicient day-to-day management of computer room perspanel with additional duties in the areas of George 3 optimisation, implementation of new applications plus the introduction and maintenance of operations standards. Applicants should have a solid ICL 1900 and George 3 background with provious supervisory experience.

£7042-£8497*

This post will be of inforest to existing Shift Leaders or Senior Operators who already have a thorough knowledge of ICL 1900 hadware and George 3, and who now wish to dovelop their supervisory skills.

TRAINEE OPERATOR

£3414-£4388* A minimum of 4 'O' levels plus the initiative and ability to work elliciently within a close - Init team are the essential requirements for this position which offers

excellent prospects within a go-shead installation. DATA CONTROL CLERK

£3414-£5468* Applications are invited from candidates with a good knowledge of George 3

Job Control Language although applicants without previous computer experience will be considered for a transe-level appearment For further details, 'phone John Wynton, or write to:

Modern Computer Services Limited. FREEPOST. London WC2N 5BR.

01-839 3351

Data Processing Staff Consultants

(University of London)

Keppel Street WC1E 7HT

APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER

the provision of computing Business of a foreign of subjection backages on a foreign wind an analysis of subjects.

pplicants should be graduates reprints and the graduates (or have equivalent expanence or qualifications) with a good know-ledge of at least 1 programming language, profesably FORTRAN. Experience in the development of large programmes and some knowledge of statistics an advantage Salay; in the range advantage Salary in the range £6142-£8160 depending on quallications and experience

Further pathoulars and applica-tion form from F. C. Ball, Assis-tions Secretary, completed application forms to be returned to later than 13th March, 1980. uoting reference XHL/1.

Leading West End Chartered Surveyors require intelligent

EXPERIENCED PERSON

o supervise and operate recently installed on-line computer installation with word processing unit.

Particular responsibility for in-house training. Salary by negotiation.

Four weeks holiday... Box No. 1082

134 Fr

Computer Weekly

4 large, well-established consultancies with to recruit systems people with all-round experience on third generation equipment and the right personality to deal with clients who require first-rate service. Technical Communications Consultants are also required where in-depth implementation experience of IBM or DEC latest ranges are essential. Excellent fringe benefits and prospects. CW9/3.

THE VERY BEST!

SALES SUPPORT

MANUFACTURING

NORTH SURREY

background CW9/2.

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CENTRAL LONDON

SYSTEMS ANALYST

TO £9,000 + CAR LONDON, MIDLANDS AND HOME

We have four MINI computer manufac-

turing companies with offices around the

country who require people with the confidence to deal with clients in a pre- or

post-sales situation. All vacancies require

a programming background on minis and the jobs will provide an exciting and satifying career. CW9/1.

Have you a manufacturing or accounting system background? If you have and you would like to know more about TOPICS

give us a call. The company using this on-line system as a pilot scheme soon to

be installed world wide, are one of the major manufacturers of home entertain-

ments in the world. Your future career is assured if you have 3 or more years' DP

£8,500 to £14,000

MINI SALESMEN QUOTA EARNINGS £15,000 + 2 LITRE CAR SURREY, SUBSEX & CITY

A very successful American min manufacturing and marketing organisa-tion (over 300 salesmen in the Steles) has recently set up shop in this country. That have an excellent product with top-grads support serving the total DP needs of small and medium-sized companies and having comprehensive Timesharing and multiprogramming capabilities. CW9/4

CONTRACT PROGRAMMERS.

PROGRAMMERS
Large 2900 Cobol VMEB London 3 miles
Sys. Designer & Prog:
Shedow PLI DOS. Surrey 3 miles
Cobol Total D/B — IBM London 3 miles
PDP Corel 66. Surrey 6 miles
Level 86 IDS TDS
Cobol MVS OS/VS1. Holland 6 miles
L66 TPS IDS
IDMS Sys. Analyst—ICL Holland 1 miles
2900 IDMS
Apur Dhebi 6 miles

Recruitment Consultants
UNIVERSAL COMPUTER ASSOCIATES LIMITED 01995 3883 (01958 6138 Evenings) Data Express House, 3 Prospect Place, Heathfield Terrace, Chiswick W.



SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMMING

ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS

AROUND £8500

This well-established manufacturing organisation, with up-to-the-minute hardware, is seeking Analyst/Programmers with 3-5 years' COBOL or GEORGE 111. The emphasis is on the development of commercial systems, and there is the opportunity to move into full-time . analyst positions. A progressive salary structure is in operation and career prospects are

PROGRAMMERS

Oxfordshire, Days only.

AROUND £6000

A major international banking organisation can offer interesting work to BASIC and BASIC+ Programmers with around 2 years' experience. A background in financial applications would be useful, but not essential. There are extensive and generous benefits, including mortgage subsidies and non-

contributory pensions. Ref: IM 8/2

RPG II PROGRAMMER

AROUND **£6000**

Our client is a market-leader in consumer products. With the recent installation of a System 34, there is a requirement for an RPG II Programmer with 18-24 months' experience to develop new applications. Excellent benefits include staff discounts, non-contributory pensions and free medical

PROGRAMMER IBM 370

то £5500

A well-known company in the cosmetics industry seeks a programmer to complement their highly efficient DP department. TRAINING IN PL 1 will be given where necessary. The installation uses transmission links and databases.

Excellent career progression is expected for the successful applicant. Relocation expenses will be paid if necessary and the company offers flexitime and discounted products.

PROGRAMMER

то £7500

RPG or Cobol Systems 3 and 34.

A household named company is seeking a competent RPG or possibly COBOL programmer. Retraining will be given if necessary, one year's experience is expected.

The company offers 22 days' holiday, a heavily subsidised canteen and discounted group

ENEG.

PROGRAMMERS AND REAL TIME **PROGS**

This leading consultancy seeks programmers with at least 2½ years, experience. The company has several different machines and uses a multiplicity of languages for both scientific and commercial applications. Comprehensive company benefits including relocation if necessary. This is a real opportunity to expand your range of machines. languages and applications. High-calibre applicants are expected

£5000

c £7500

OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR Responsible for daily running of Burroughs mini-system and organising staff at small site in

2 year's experience on any machine to work 2-shift system in S.W. London

management stoff with at least 6 years' experience. Benefits include car.

OPERATIONS MANAGER Large companies in London and Home Counties, using Burroughs medium systems require

DEC -- PDP OPS

Minimum 1 year's experience required by various sites in Central London. Various shift

DEC -- PDP OPERATOR Minimum 18 months' experience required by installation in Central London. Days only,

Many data control vacancies in London and Home Counties for clerks and supervisors. Days and Shifts.

Chance to switch to IBM for experienced ICL G11 operator North London location

ICL 19/2900 DME/B VME/B OPERATOR N. London based installation, require experienced operators, will look at good G11.

UNIVAC 90/30 OS3 SENIOR OP Established installation in City offer top perks + pay for very experienced OS3 operator. 2 yrs. + experience required. .

City based company require S/ldr, with 3 yrs, JCL + ops experience. Excellent perks.

ICL 2900 VME/B OPERATOR City installation requires 18 months' experience in VME/B & Syt. 4. Excellent chance to

ICL 2903/4 SENIOR OP Small, but needs reliable Op to take heavy responsibility!

Support or similar role, which should include JCL writing.

IBM 370 OS OPS SUPT

Large South London Co. require an operator with approx. 1 year IBM OS Operating

Supervisor required for team of 4. Sound operating background plus 3 years in Ops

1BM 370 OS OPERATOR I year plus experience required by progressive North London site. Parks include Mortgage subsidy. Prospects of Programming in the future.

C. London Financial site require an operator with 18 months, plus experience, including

IBM 3031 DOS SHIFT LDR. £5600 2 yrs + DOS experience with some JCL and supervisory experience for 2 shift working

IBM 370 DOS OPERATOR North London site require an operator with 6 months, plus DOS experience. Unusual shift pattern working mainly days only.

Datascene International Limited, Sceptre House, 169-173 Regent Street, London W1R 7FB. Telex: 25851.

Development Staff Up to £8600 **Computer Centre Staff**

Up to £7900 Salaries under review

By swalling in to our Informal Interviews next week you'll be taking an important step in your career while helping us to make an important step

At Southwark our Computer Sciences Division is entering the ambitious second phase of its growth. We have expanded our ICL 2970 hardware and wish to strengthernour systems and Computer Centre functions and so shall be looking

Systems Development

Project Leaders

Analysts and Programmers Computer Centre

Operations Manager

Operations and Control Staff

We have a progressive training policy that will keep you in touch with the latest to, hangues and we provide good salaries (with overtime rates) and a wide range of benefits. But why not take the first step by calling in to our Informal Interviews we promise you want look back.

If you live outside London or are unable to attend and you would like more information please tolephone GEOFF STEGGALS on 01-703 6311, or apply as

Telephone 01-701 2870 any time for an application form, or write on a postcard to: The Personnel Officer London Barough of Southwark, 27 Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB. Please quote reference. CW/8/1179 and job title.

Fourhwark

EAST MIDLANOS ELECTRICITY have a 6 megabyte 3032 LB.M.
Computer operating under MVS. Other software includes
CICS for teleprocessing, TSO for program development,
DUI and DATAMANAGER.

Systems rrogrammers

at Board Headquarters, Coppice Road, Arnold, Nottingham.

Salary up to £6660 per annum.

Programmers with sound programming ability in COBOL and/or Basic Assumbler languages interested in systems programming.

The successful applicants will be required to work in small teams with responsibilities for Operating Systems, Data Administration and the development of utility programs

Relovant training in operating systems or database software will be given.

Initial satures will be based on experience and will be supported by attractive lange benefits.

Applications should be made on a form obtainable from the Personnet Manager, The East Michards Electricity Board, P.O. Box 4, North P.D.O., 398 Copping Read, Arnold, Nothingham NG5 7HX, and returned by Friday, 14 March 1980.

The Polytechnic of North London

computing Service COMPUTER **OPERATOR**

The computer is currently manned from Monday to Friday on a three-shift both during term time and two shift during vacations.

Salary on scale £3674 64 rising t £1568 64 plus shift allowance

o bealf sht mon incitation the Computing Service, The Poly-technic of North London, Holloway Road, London N7 8DS.

> GEORGE 3 u va got 18 manths plus ex side on George 3 contact us "I Vaconcies in London and 10 war lod G3 Data Control Clerks Irgent Jonizer Gootf on 351-5886/ 13320

STAFF STAFF LTO. (AOSMCY) NO. SEA 4235

Previous experience, though useful, in firt necessary as full training will be given. This is a good experiently fou anyone who wants to get into com-puting, and career development is encourased.

and optical). Our position will involve special responsibility for organization is preferred and familiarity with Assembler languages, Z80 and Intel family would be useful. Qualifications to degree/HNC level will be expected and

The attractive remuneration package for these Reading based positions will include five weeks annual leave and membership of an excellent contributory pension scheme with free life assurance. Relocation assistance will be offered where appropriate.

Write to, or ring: Richmond Court, 309 Fleet Rond, Fleet, Hanis.

Britain's fastest growing electronics group

RACAL

The microprocessor revolution

State of the state

PARKEY

LIVERPOOL AREA

(DR/653) 18 + months IBM experience

(DR/655) 24 + months ICL environment

(DR/656) Senior Analyst ICL environment (DR/657) 24 + months IBM experience

(DR/658) 18 + months ICL experience

(DR/660) 24 + months ICL experience

(DR/661) 18 + months ICL orientated

(DR/663) 18 + months IBM orientated

(DR/664) 24 + months IBM (CICS)

(DR/670) 12 + months ICL COBOL

(DR/672) 18 + months ICL COBOL

(DR/675) 24 + months ICL COBOL

(DR/677) 12 + months IBM COBOL

(DR/678) 12 + months IBM COBOL

(DR/680) 18 + months ICL COBOL

MANCHESTER AREA

(DR/681) 12 + months any mainframe

(DR/682) 24 + months ICL environment

(DR/683) 24 + months IBM background

(DR/685) 18 + months IBM environment (DR/686) 24 + months ICL background

(DR/687) Sales support (will travel)

(DR/690) Experienced IBM analysts

(DR/697) 12 + months ICL COBOL

(DR/702) 24 + months ICL COBOL

(DR/705) 18 + months any mainframe

(DR/703) Senior IBM positions

(DR/704) IBM assembly position

(DR/708) 18 + months COBOL

NORTH WEST CONTACT

ADDRESS.

LANGUAGES USED

PHONE: HOME-

MACHINES USED.

JOB SOUGHT_

SALARY

(DR/707) 12 + months ICL COBOL

(DR/694) 20 + months any background

(DR/695) 18 + months IBM environment

(DR/899) 24 + months ICL environment

(DR/691) Senior IBM positions

(DR/688) IBM background

(DR/693) ICL background

PROGRAMMERS

(DR/684) Firm ICL background (degree required)

18 + months mini background

(DR/692) Experienced analysts (any mainframe)

(DR/896) Senior position IBM COBOL/ASSEMBLER

(DR/698) 18 + months IBM systems experience

(DR/700) Sales support (will travel) (DR/701) 3 + years IBM COBOL/ASSEMBLER

(DR/708) Experienced IBM COBOL/ASSEMBLER

BUSINESS (will be used discreetly)-

AND MANY MORE!

Interested ? Send coupon FREEPOST or phone quoting relevant reference

YRS PROGRAMMING.

SALARY REQUIRED....

ANALYSTS

(DR/671) 18 + months IBM experience

(DR/673) 24 + months IBM/ICL COBOL

(DR/674) 24 + months senior ICL position

(DR/676) Senior Programmer IBM environment

(DR/679) 18 + months large mainframe (COBOL)

(DR/665) Firm ICL background

(DR/667) Firm IBM background

PROGRAMMERS

(DR/659) 18 + months IBM background

(DR/662) 24 + months IBM environment

(DR/666) Firm experience (any mainframe)

(DR/668) 18 + months IBM CICS experience

(DR/669) Firm IBM COBOL/ASSEMBLER

(DR/654) 24 + months IBM ICL background

ANALYSTS

A revolution in design, systems, applications and procurement

The switch from a traditional electro-mechanical base to advanced electronics is the task our client is now facing.

Immediate priority is to harness available technology, both in a cost-effective way and within a short time-scale, involving the integration of R & D, manufacture and marketing, combining the resources already available in sister companies in Europe and the USA.

This technological revolution is obviously presenting our client's existing personnel with what must be their biggest professional and technical challenge yet. This leap forward into new high technology products clearly presents highly unusual challenges which will tax the most able from the software and electronics fields.

To help put the plan into effect, high-calibre men and women are required in the following categories:

Software Specialists up to £9,500

To develop the total system/software side of all new product design in the UK and Europe.

Digital Design Engineers, up to £8,500

For digital design, standards, ATE, manufacture and quality,

Purchasing Specialists, up to £7,500

For procurement globally of electronic components relatively new to the company.

Location: Southern England, well outside London. Relocation expenses available.

For more information write to or telephone for an application form, quoting ref. CPW2: Dawn Adams.

Cambridge Recruitment Consultants

1a Rose Crescent, Cambridge CB2 3LL. Telephone (0223) 311316

Baril Baril

Principal Design Engineers Up to £8.500

Racal-Milgo Limited, the world's leading Data Communications Company, offers a comprehensive range of modems, multiplexers and network management equipment to computer-based users.

To continue the development of our current roduct range and actively participate in our advanced uture projects we require two PRINCIPAL DESIGN

Both positions carry project control for new microprocessor based developments which will also necessitate classical analogue/digital design. (The communications media involved are digital, analogue

component standards and selection plus general equipment safety standards throughout our territories.

Previous design experience in a commercial successful candidates will probably be aged 30 years plus

D. J. Kichenside, Personnel Officor, Racal-Milgo Limited, Tel: (02514) 22144

LEEDS BRADFORD AREA ANALYSTS

to £7500

lo £6700

c **£7000**

to **£6500**

to **£6000**

to **£6400**

to **£6500**

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to **£6500**

to **£6000**

c **£5300**

to **£5300**

to **£6200**

to **£7000**

£ Neg. to **£6500**

to **£8500**

to **£7500**

to **£6000**

to **£7000**

to **£7800**

to **£7000**

to £6400

to **£6000**

to **£6500**

to **£7000**

to **£7000**

c £5500

to **£7000** to **£7000**

£ Neg.

to **£8000**

to **£5500**

c £5500

c **£4700**

c **£6000**

EDWARD BRUSH

£ Nea

£ Neg

(DR/709) 4 -: years (including programming background). (DR/710) 2 - years financial systems - IBM site ... (DR/711) 2 - years commercial systems c **£6500** (DR/712) 18 : months (plus programming background) 2 + years financial systems (including programming background) to **£7500** (DR/714) 2 - years (including ASSEMBLER programming background) (DR/715) 2 + years commercial systems (with programming to £7500 background) (DR/716) 3 + years manufacturing systems c£7000 **PROGRAMMERS** (DR/717) 21 -- years COBOL (DR/720) All levels PDP BASIC (DR/721) 18 + months ICL COBOL - 2900 site

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AREA

ANALYSTS

	-	
(DR/729)	3 + years Project leader, commercial systems 3 years database design + administration	to £9000 to £9000
(DR/730)	2 + years commercial plus major projects experience	to £800 0
(DR/731)	18 + months (all data processing background)	to £700 0
PROGR	AMMERS '	

(DR/722) 12 -- months COBOL on any hardware to £5500

(DR/723) 2 + years NCR COBOL £ Neg. (DR/724) 3 + years COBOL supervising - ICL site to £6500

(DR/727) 2 + years ICL COBOL

/MM /700 1	0 083 0
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TYNE & WEAR AREA

ANALYSTS

	0.0
(DR/734)	18 + months commercial systems to £6500
(DR/735)	2 years financial systems to £7250
(DR/736)	3 + years manufacturing systems c £7500
(DR/737)	2 + years (including COBOL programming
	background) £6800
(DR/738)	3 + years manufacturing systems£ Neg.
(DR/739)	4 + years manufacturing systems to £8500
(DR/740)	2 + years production systems to £7800
(DR/741)	2 + years (including programming background)c £7000
PROGR	AMMERS
(DR/742)	2 -+ years COBOL on any hardware £5500

PROGR	AMMERS
(DR/743) (DR/744) (DR/745)	2 + years COBOL on any hardware

CLASCOW & WEST OF SCOTLAND AREA

ANALYSTS

	3 + years financial systems to factoring to factoring	
(DR/749) (DR/760)	2 years commercial systems	E65(
(DR/751)	2 + years analyst programming any machine	£63(
	18 months analyst programming to the state of the state o	

PROGRAMMERS

. rnoan	WIALLE VO
(DR/754)	3 + years IBM systems programmingc £7500
(DR/766)	4 + years CICS, DL/1to £8500
(DR/756)	2 years IBM 370 systems programmingc £6500
(DR/757)	3 + years COBOL, any hardwarec £7000
(DR/758)	3 years COBOL, any mainframeto £6750
(DR/769)	3 + years COBOL IBM preferred to £7250
(DR/760)	18 + months COBOL, IBM, ICL
(DR/761)	3 + vears PL/1 c £7750
(DR/762)	2 + years IBM COBOL Programme Progra
• • • •	

YORKS, CAMBS, NORTH EAST AND SCOTLAND CONTACT

CATHY SCOTT



DATA RESOURCES AGENCY. P.O. BOX 63, 8th FLOOR, COPTHALL TOWER HOUSE. HARROGATE HG1 1TS **TELEPHONE HARROGATE 65311**

REF No.

24 HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE

THE PERSON AND THE WAR WAS TO SEE THE PROPERTY OF THE PERSON OF THE PERS

_CW/1/3



British company is making the massive investment needed to compete with the world-leaders in the manufacture and supply of peripherals. Our client, based in the Home Counties, has a remarkably successful record in this field and is now reorganising so that the company is geared up for competitiveness

on a world-scale. To achieve that, the company is buying in some of the finest marketing talent available and is looking to match it with the skills in the newly

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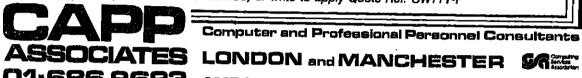
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The Command and Control Systems operation of PDSL is based at Addlestone in Surrey, and

has responsibility for projects in the areas of information systems for command and control, and packet switched data communications systems. This includes project WAVELL, for which contracts for the main development and production phases have recently been awarded to PDSL. It also includes Plessey activities related to command and control for the Royal Air Force. Current projects and immediate prospects cover a variety of activities ranging from feasibility studies to major system implementations. Prospects are such that a major expansion of the operation is being sought over the next 1 to 2 years. Opportunities exist at a variety of levels in the following skills:

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On the back of rumours that a hugh-hugh software house has been established in Walford by a very prominent company. (as published in our previous issue) we can now exclusively reveal that the mystery company is about to break cover. Our own enquiries reveal that they have already appointed staff as a result of our previous "leak," and more are yet to be appointed.

MYSTERY COMPANY NAMED!

In a dawn raid on his home, we confronted David Woolf, the personnel consultant at the centre of this undercover recruitment sweep. "Who is the mystery company?", we asked. "I categorically refuse to confirm or deny that my client is Marconi Space and Defence Systems," he told our correspondent. Not content with this middle-man's answer, we probed further and came up with some surprising information.

Men and women at all levels of expertise, graduates or of graduate calibre, could join this company. Anyone from a control computing environment – gas, electricity, defence, paper, steel, aerospace, chemicals – in fact, anyone using small computers on control, simulation or data analysis and retrieval systems should apply.

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Further particulars and applica-tion form from F. C. Balf. Assis-tant Secretary, completed application forms to be returned no later than 13th March, 1980, quoting reference XHL/1.

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SOLIHULL SOFTWARE PROGRAMMERS

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Informatics will be interviewing in London and Manchester for positions in the USA during the week of March

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Micros - London

The Systems Engineering and Software House division of one of the largest computer service organisations in Europe is currently seeking a number of experienced mini/micro engineers to work in a consultancy environment in Central London. Programmers/Engineers should offer 2-3 years of Systems Design using minicomputers or microprocessors, with sound knowledge of Assembler language. You will be involved in the design and development of micro systems for data logging, process control, information retrieval, etc. using intel, Motorola

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UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOO SHIFT

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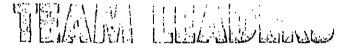
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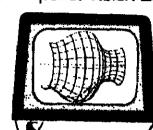
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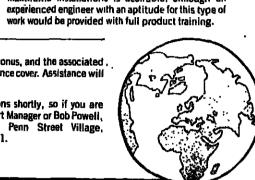
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- Hotels

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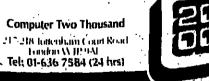
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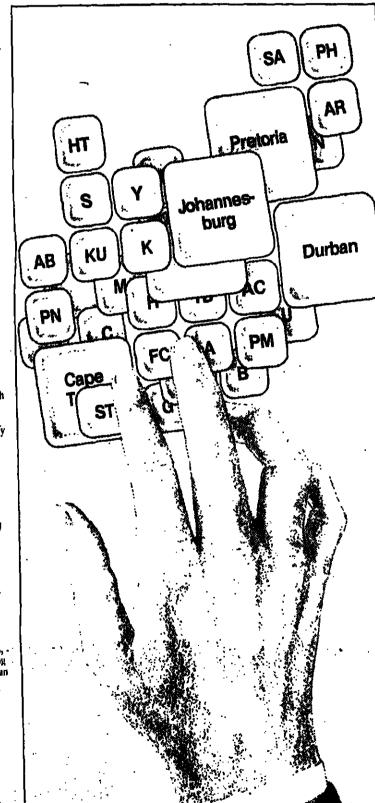
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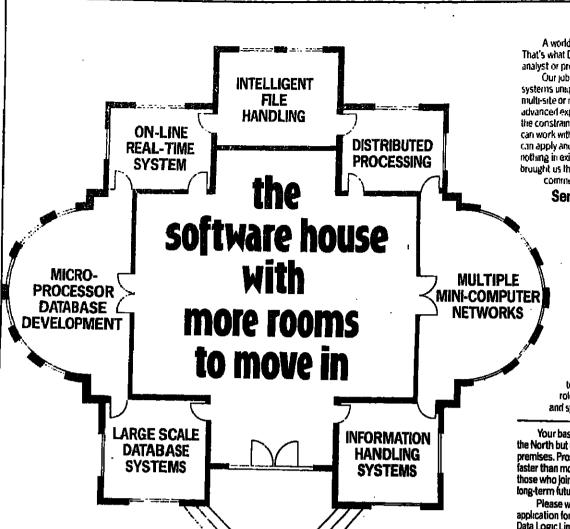
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DOS/VS Systems Programmers Middle East

Systems 34 Analysts Programmers City

UNIVAC DMS Analyst/Programmers Essex

RPG Senior Programmers

Essex



Alan King TANGENT COMPUTER SERVICES 4 Eastern Road Romford, Essex Tel: Romford 44181/2 28238

Communications Network Support

Network Support Section of the Operations Group.

The recruit will join a small group responsible for the day-to-day support of the Centre's extensive and expanding, data communication, network. The work is varied and involves the analysis and rectification of technical and operational problems also liason with users, staff and suppliers engineers.

Two shift working is required tovering morning and illimited evening shifts for which an allowance is paid.

Applicant should have a minimum of 5 'O' lavels, possession of A levels working be an advantage. Knowledge of electronic workshop practice and/or, computer piperations would be a traffinite advantage.

AST week I wrote about wants to hear about savings the reluctance of many related to future benefits salesmen, particularly the which can bring about inyoung and relatively lnex-perienced, to make their and/or profitability.

first approach at managing An approach to him director level. While almost might be made along these might be made along these knowledge the benefits of "This system, which is

contact at the very top of a already enjoying considerclient company, many are in able success with many awe of the status and other companies in the authority of the chief same line of business as executive. They take the yourself, will not only bring softer approach at middle about a significant reducmanagement level, in the tion in your total stockholdfirm belief that it will be ing" - don't ever quote

easier to sell, whereas it anticipated savings or usually results in more improvements in percenhassles and fewer decisions tage terms! — "but also en-than would otherwise be able you considerably to experienced. reduce out of date stock,
Of course, many salesmen over-ordering and stockwould not dream of making outs', thus providing a their first sales approach at higher level of customer any level other than with service.

the MD. Unfortunately a "This means you will be considerable proportion able both to reduce capital hen proceed to throw away investment in live and this benefit by putting en-tirely the wrong emphasis crease revenues by virtue of on the subsequent dialogue. a more reliable stock
As a general rule, availability for customers managing directors are pri- who might otherwise go to marily interested in finan- your competitors. This will cial benefits, whereas make a considerable conmiddle management wants tribution to the profitability to know about performance of your company and provide you with management Take for example the sale aids already being enjoyed

f a computer system for by many of your competistock control. The tors."
warehouse manager will Managing directors want save a real influence on the to know about ways in final decision. He will be which they can improve extremely interested in the total company perforequipment's efficiency in mance. This usually brings space utilisation, ease of about a relative lack of intuse, industry compatible erest in nesthetics. processors, mechanics and the ambitandard applications pack-tions of divisional or deiges, disc access times, partmental managers and rinting speeds and so on.

managing director's inter- related to the company's, st in such aspects of pro- and therefore their own, duct selection will be virtu- survival. illy academic so long as More next week. middle management has no extreme objections. He

and technical efficiency.

concentration on those fac-On the other hand, the tors which are closely

TRADER

processing systems is being brought into the West End in March. The address will be

Carlton House, George Street,

the moving of its Northern branch to Regent House, Hea-ton Lane, Stockport and its

didland office to Elmdon

House, Coventry Road, Birmingham 26. The UK head-

quarters remains at Lower

Richmond. Road, Richmond Surrey. Tel: 01-878 7821.

Bigger premises

MEMOREX UK has relocated

its Bradford office to larger

ON THE MOVE

ione to Brum

AICROCOMPUTER software esigners and consultants ridata Micros Ltd have moved com Rushden, Northants, to new offices at Smithfield House, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6BS. Tel: 021-622 1754 and

Suc alocul

THREE new showrooms will be opened by the Carter-Parratt Group in March and April They Group in March and April. They are Scotland, Capalt Burn Petth Road, Dunblane: Perthabire FK1J 0JE. Tel: 0786 822649; Northern, Crown House; Armley Road; Leeds LS12 2FJ. Tel: 0532 448961; South West, I Reaufort Place Larkhall, Bath, Avon; BA1 6RP. Tel: 0225 331841.

Wang changes

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New York MOVING into new offices in New York; the US offeration division of Arbet Systems is now ht. 7 Hanover Equare in New York's Lower Manhattan;

370 for sale

premises at 13 Springbank Place. The telephone number is Bradford (0274) 491211. Sales inquiries for the district will. continue to be dealt with by the Surrey, will shortly be moving to new larger premises at 52-54 Stafford Road, Wallington, The company's; IBM 370/125, new replaced by an IBM 4331, is for sale.

Systems **Programmers**

Here at Burroughs Machines, Croydon, we are developing and implementing our next generation of micro-computer based terminals. To continue our lead in this field we need additional Programmers who are looking to apply their individual skills to the design and development of complete systems.

Our programmers are involved at all stages of a product, from initial concept through design and development into production. The systems programmers we are seeking will come from all areas. Our requirements spread across every level: from programmers with a wealth of experience looking for a new challenge, to recent graduates looking to develop a successful career in an expanding environment.

Involvement will cover a number of areas including Interactive Systems, Interpreters, User Interfaces and Hardware Diagnostic Test Routines. Previous experience in these areas would be an advantage but is not essential enthusiasm and the ability to tackle a new challenge are more important.

You will be based at our Croydon Centre, although some travel will be necessary for you to fulfil your job responsibilities. Excellent opportunities exist for career development, both in the U.K. and

Salary will relate to individual experience and circumstances but will not be a limiting factor. Relocation assistance will be given where

For further details please contact:

Roddy Macdonald or Emed Al-Kalamchi, Burroughs Machines Ltd. 512. Purley Way. Croydon, Surrey, CR04NZ Tel: 01-686 0365. Ext. 228 and 290.

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You'll find our working conditions and form, quoting reference BL39 to:facilities are excellent, and for men, and Jack Burnie, Marconi Space and women with the right kind of ability and Defence Systems Limited, creative talent, salary should present assistance will be given with relocation where applicable. Telephone: Portsmouth (0705) 699414.

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Marconi Space & Defence Systems (Portsmouth) A GEC: Marconi Electronic : Company

NORTHERN RECRUITMENT FEATURE MARCH 6th FOR FURTHER INFORMATION Contact: OWEN KELLY on 961-872 4211

COMPUTER WEEKLY CLASSIFIED 261 8028/8097/8019

the newspaper computer people rely on UNIVERSITY OF LONDON COMPUTER CENTRE

The University of London Computer Centre has a vacancy in the Network Support Section of the Operations Group.

Sterting selary within the range of £3884-£4875 P.A. (inc.) depending on age and experience. Applications giving age. qualifications and previous employment to: MR*F. M. BLACK. UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, COMPUTER CENTRE, 20 QUILDFORD STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.

£340 p.w.

£320 p.w.

£350 p.w.

£350 p.w.

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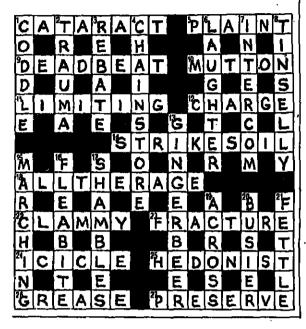
£280-300 p.w.

(CW Prize Crossword No 2) [162 INNER LONDON EDUCATION AUTHORITY

SOLUTION

THE winner of Computer Weekly Prize Crossword No 2 is Chris Dennis, a programmer with Ferranti Computer Systems at Bracknell, Berks, He will receive the first prize of £10. The second prizes of £5 each go to Rod Williams, senior computing officer at the Computer Centre, Strath-clyde University, Glasgow, and Philip Franklin, programming manager with Fernart, the software house and

Prize Crossword No 3 will appear on March 6



NEW ZEALAND

COMPUTER STAFF

The Computer Services Division of the New Zealand State Services Commission has the following vacancies for EDP staff in the middle and upper staff schelons. There are openings in all fields of EDP for qualified pacific, including those experienced in development or pacific to the content of the service o operations in mojor systems, large scale equipment, and date communications systems.

EDP Consultants

up to NZ\$20,000 Senior Systems Analyst or Analysts up to NZ\$17,000 Systems Programmers up to NZ\$17,000

Scnior Programmers with specialist skills in Training or Quality Control

Data Administrators Shift Supervisors Sonior Operators Programmer/Analyst

up to NZ\$15,600 up to NZ\$19,000 up to NZ\$15,000 up to NZ\$13,500 up to NZ\$14.000

The Division handles work for some tony User Government Departments and has six operational centres. as well as in house' equipment servicing the Users
Each Centro has extensive network providing 'on-line'
interactive' and 'batch' facilities for a range of
commercial, scientific and engineering users.

Distributed processing is being used in practical operational situation and considerable growth in this

Mainframes servicing those applications include Burroughs, Digital, I.B.M., I.C.L., Univac. etc. Software is in line with the requirements and also includes packages such as 0.1 S., STAIRS, MAS, MMS, IMS, DMS 11, IDMSX and DMS 1100 Mini-computer and micro computer projects are becoming more prevalent. Latest technologies and methodologics are used and work is project oriented to

The Division places great emphasis on training and apportunities exist for individual anhancement.

Location will be Wollington, Trensham (near

"Findingial assistance will be available to move family and household effects to New Zealand.

Applicants must be able to meet the New Zealand limmigration citiesa

For further information write immediately to

EDP Recruitment c/o Chief Migration Officer New Zealand High Commission New Zealand House

LONDON SWIY 4TQ

giong age, family details and identific of qualifications and incorrect

It is expected interviews will take placuin London in the

inspector for Computer

Salary Range: £10,799 ~ £11,858

Applications are invited for the post of inspector. The main but not exclusive responsibility will be the development of computer education in primary and secondary schools. There will be particular emphasis on the growth of the use of microcomputers across the curdoulum and related in-service training. Applicants should have had substantial experience in these areas and will be expected to assist the staff inspector for computer education on all aspects of the work.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Education Officer (EO/Estab 18), Room 367, the County Hall, London SE1 7PB (Please enclose a stamped addressed

Completed forms to be returned by 13 March 1980.



SYSTEMS ANALYST

c. £7,000

E. Gomme Limited, manufacturers of G-Plan furniture at three locations in the United Kingdom, require a Systems Analyst to join the small friendly date processing team at the High Wycombe headquarters, where we use an IBM 370/126 to process a wide range of

Applicants should ideally be aged between 25 and 35, with a programming background and two years systems experience. We can offer you an important role in the design, implementation and maintenance of a wide variety of both betch and T.P. applications.

The Company offers excellent conditions of service and a salary will be negotiable in the region of £7.000. Generous assistance with re-location expenses will be

A. Sampson Company Personnel Manager E. Gomme Limited Spring Gardens, High Wycombe, Bucks.

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COMPETITIVE RATES INTERESTING ASSIGNMENTS
REGISTER NOW WITH THE SPECIALISTS PHONE 021-843 6118 (24 hours) to register or send your c.v. to PROJECT RECRUITMENT LIMITED

R A member of the Gould Computer Systems Group

Sex **Discrimination** Act

No job advertisement which indicates or can reasonably be understood as indicating an intention to discriminate on grounds of sex (e.g. by inviting applicaions only from males or only from iemales) may be accepted unless:

- (1) the job is for the purpose of a private
- (2) it is in a business employing less than six persons or
- (3) it is otherwise excepted from the requirements of the Sex Discrimina-

A statement must be made at the time the advertisement is placed saying which of the exceptions in the Act is considered to



Computer **Programmer**

Rotterdam

c.£10,000 p.a. + benefits

Seatrain Europa B.V., a division of one of the world's most rapidly expending Container Lines, has a vacancy for a Computer Programmer to be based at its

This is a new position and the person appointed will be required to write and Implement programmes for use in Seatrain's European shipping activities. The npany currently has I.B.M. S/34s located in Holland, Germany, Sweden, U.K. and France, and a certain amount of European travel will be involved Applicants should have gained a minimum of 2 years experience using RPGII, preferably with the above hardware.

This position offers an attractive salary, excellent conditions of employment and assistance with relocation to Holland. To apply, please write giving brief details of age, education, job history and current salary to:—

Mr. M. Thompson Personnel Director—Europe c/o 1a Bow Lane London EC4M 9EJ

interviews will be held in London.

Computing in Oxfordshire

We are looking for enthusiastic physicists or computer scientists to join the Data Handling Group of the Laboratories High Energy Physics Division. Members of the group are working on all aspects of the computing required for research in elementary particle physics, both at the Laboratory and at international research centres in Geneva and Hamburg. Projects involve collaboration with University groups and some overseas travel. Currently we are involved in:

(i) Real-time programming for data acquisition and control using the DEC VAX-11/780, GEC 4080, etc.
 (ii) Data reduction and analysis in the Laboratory's IBM 3032

+ 360/195 complex. (iii) Software development for Laboratory designed fast trigger processors.
(iv) Development of an interactive graphics system.

Scientific Officer £4,210-£5,486 Higher Scientific Officer £5,097-£6,737

Closing date: 14th March, 1980.

Rutherford and Appleton Laboratories

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS **EXPERIMENTAL** OR SENIOR

EXPERIMENTAL OFFICER A young physicist to assist ecademic stall with processing and studiest Physics date. A degree in Physics and some knowledge of Fortran is essential.

A Programmer Systems Analyst to assist with the exploitation of a multi-user workstation, based on coupled S. C. 4085 computers, which has access to the S.R.C. a large installations at the Rutherford and Derebury Laboratories. A degree or equivalent is expented.

Salarina according to age and experi-ence on the scale for Experimental Of-linears (C4153-C6991 p.e.) of San-or Experimental Officers (4765-C6273 0 8 1)



Successful applicants would work in one or more of these areas. Candidates should have a good honours degree in physics, computer science or a related subject. Depending on qualifications and experience, salaries will be within the following scales:

Non-contributory superannuation scheme. If you are interested, please ring Jane Williams of the Personnel Group on Abingdon 21900 ext. 510 or write to her quoting reference VN 886 at:

The Rutherford & Appleton Laboratories, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX110QX.

Geosurvey International

Replies should be addressed to The Chief Geophysicist, Geosurvey International Limited, -Geosurvey House, Orchard Lane, East Molesey, Surey KT8 0BY.

FORTRAN PROGRAMMERS

Experienced FORTRAN programmers are required for the

Geophysics' Department of a multi-national airborne survey company. The successful candidates will work with a team of

geophysicists and geologists who are developing computer

programs for use in mineral exploration. The company operates

advanced computing equipment. Applicants must possess scientific programming experience in industry. Experience in the geophysics' industry would be helpful but is not essential. A

HANET JOINT COMPUTER COMMITTEE DEPUTY COMPUTER MANAGER P.O.1 (3-7) £8627-£7329 p.a.

competitive salary will be offered.

(Comparability Award panding)

Ninstallation, altituated in Thanet on the delightful Kant coast, provides the processing service to the Thanet and Dover District Councils and a typoped with a Honeywell 52750 with 258k memory. 58MB disks a dimagnatic tapes. Input is via key-to-diskette

Perion with proven experience of systems development and statif "Period, preferably in local government, is now sought. Duties clude leading and organising a development staff of four to cover the clinto 3 Mems involving communications and the supervision of the computer canter in the absence of the computer menager.

cron appointed will be expected to have formet systems training nowiedge of Cobol and be a significant influence in the substantial archanges required by the constituent authorities.

Mhis include 26 days heave, contributory pension shineste and says housing where necessary

Wales description and application form write to the Computer City SAA or telephone Peter Brown on Young 10943, 81742.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

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Team Leader

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EXPERIMENTAL OR SENIOR EXPERIMENTAL OFFICER

A young physicist to assist aca-demic shall with processing and analysing Nuclear Physics data A digree or Physics and same brow-totige of Fortim is assented.

A Programmer / Systems Analyst to absest with the exploration of a multi-user workstoon, based on counted 6 E.C. 4196 computers which has access to the S.R.C. is large installations at the Rucharland and Directory Luborituities. A degree of equivalent is desential.

alaries according to age and experi-nce on the scale for Experimental Of-licers (C4163-C6991 p.s.) or Sen or Experimental Officers (4766-C8273

Application forms may be obtained from The Registrar, The University P.O. Box 147, Liverpool L68 38X Quote rei RV/839/CW.

University of Bristol

Teaching Assistant in **Computer Science**

The Department of Computer Science is currently increasing its use of inferoprocessor systems in both teaching and research. It provides undegraduate courses in hardware logic design, microprocessor architecture and microprocessor software. This post will be principally concerned with laboratory teaching and advisory work for students taking these courses. There will also be opportunities to use a large on-line computer system to assist academic staff in the development of non-numercial software for bither courses. software for other courses. Candidates should have HND or graduete qualifications and plevious programming experience.

The salary for the appointment will be £4.402-£8.399 b.a. or £5.052-£7.410 p.a. (from 1st April 1980); the initial placing depending on age, qualification and experience. Applicants with a relevant Ph.D. can expect to be appointed. on the higher scale....

Further perticulars may be obtained from the Registrar and Becretary, University of Billstol, Bristol B\$8 1TH, to which applications should be sent by March 28th 1980. Please hughe reference EB.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

NERC is a government funded body responsible for research in the environmental sciences. Its scientific support services include a Computing Service capability catering for provision and development of computing facilities at NERC Institutes

GROUP LEADERS— NERC COMPUTING

Local Support Group. Senior Scientific Officer/ Principal Scientific Officer

DILOG LIMITED Throgmorton House 15 Copthall Avenue London EC2M 5TP

You should have wide experience of scientific computing and an interest in environmental sciences. Your group will be responsible for efficient management of programming staff throughout the U.K. According to experience and qualifications offered the appointment will be at SSO or PSO level (scales below) and located either at (Oxfordshire).

Further information about the nature of the work and responsibilities involved. may be obtained from Mr. B. J. Hinde on (051) 653 8633.

Software/Applications Development-Principal Scientific Officer level

This group, part of the Development Division located in Swindon (Wilts), will develop applications orientated software for various requirements throughout NERC. The group leader will manage staff usually working to defined objectives on agreed timescales, and will be responsible for. fostering expertise in software be given to candidates with proven MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

Further information about the nature of the work and responsibilities involved thay be obtained from Dr. A. J. R. Vess on (051) 653 8633.

Qualifications, Salary and Conditions Candidates should normally have an honours degree in a science, maths or engit discipling and at least four years, postgraduate of other proven experience.

> Senior Scientific Officer EB.332-EB.706 22 daya paid leave plus 10% days' public holioby:

Principal Scientific Officer:

25 days: paid leave plus 10 % days: gublic holiday.

Behefits include a non-contributory superationation scheme Conditions of employ mant are similar to those of the Civil Service, though NERC is not a Lieventment Department. Applications, staling which Group Leader, post you are applying for should be returned by 16 March. 1980 — philorms available from Mrs. P. Juddon, NERC Scientific Services, Natural Environment Research Council, Polaria House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2:1EU, Tel. (0793) 4010 1.

Extr. 431.

